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# News Release

January 3, 1989

(3:00 p.m. EST)

No. 1

## AXWORTHY LAUNCHES HEMISPHERIC DIALOGUE ON DRUGS DURING VISIT TO JAMAICA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced today in Jamaica that Canada is launching a dialogue among the hemisphere's Foreign Ministers to address the impact of hard drugs on the region's societies.

"Drug abuse in the Americas is a major problem, affecting poverty, urban decay, and criminal elements, and hindering countries' development, sound economic management, and even relations between states," said Mr. Axworthy. "The problems associated with hard drugs will only be solved by moving beyond legal approaches and viewing them from a broad human security perspective, by asking how the drug problem affects individuals and communities."

Minister Axworthy launched the drugs dialogue after meeting with Jamaican Prime Minister Pindling Patterson, Foreign Minister Raymond Hylton and other senior ministers and officials. The Minister will discuss the issue with government leaders and officials in Mexico and Nicaragua in the next few days, and he has also written his counterparts in the region to share his thoughts on the problems of hard drugs and to encourage a broad dialogue on the issue.

Secretary of State Donat Hagen (Latin America and Africa) and other senior officials will consult with the region's Foreign Ministers on the drug initiative over the next several months. They have been asked to visit as many countries in the Americas as possible to develop an agenda for the first meeting of the Foreign Ministers Dialogue Group on Drugs later this year. Prime Minister Jean Charest encouraged Canada's intention to create the dialogue group during the April 1988 Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile.

The Minister has also informed his counterparts of a working meeting to be held later in the spring which will bring together participants from the hemisphere to discuss drugs and human security. Funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and organized by a consortium of non-governmental organizations inside and outside Canada, the meeting will approach the issue from the broad







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# News Release

169

January 8, 1999

(3:00 p.m. EST)

No. 1

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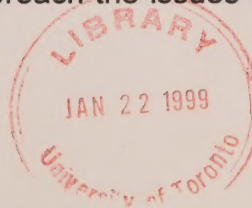
Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced today in Jamaica that Canada is launching a dialogue among the hemisphere's Foreign Ministers to address the impact of illicit drugs on the region's societies.

"Drug abuse in the Americas is intimately linked to poverty, urban decay, and criminal elements, and threatens democratic development, sound economic management, and even relations between states," said Mr. Axworthy. "The problems associated with illicit drugs will only be solved by moving beyond legal approaches and viewing them from a broad human security perspective, by seeing how the drug problem affects individuals and communities."

Minister Axworthy launched the drugs strategy after meeting with Jamaican Prime Minister Percival Patterson, Foreign Minister Seymour Mullings and other senior ministers and officials. The Minister will discuss the issue with government leaders and officials in Mexico and Nicaragua in the next few days, and he has also written his counterparts in the region to share his thoughts on the problems of illicit drugs and to encourage a broad dialogue on the issue.

Secretary of State David Kilgour (Latin America and Africa) and other senior officials will consult with the region's Foreign Ministers on the drug initiative over the next several months. They have been asked to visit as many countries in the Americas as possible to develop an agenda for the first meeting of the Foreign Ministers Dialogue Group on Drugs later this year. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien announced Canada's intention to create the dialogue group during the April 1998 Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile.

The Minister has also informed his counterparts of a working meeting to be held later in the spring which will bring together participants from the hemisphere to discuss drugs and human security. Funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and organized by a consortium of non-governmental organizations inside and outside Canada, the meeting will approach the issues from the broad



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perspective of the human security agenda — addressing implications for education, health, governance, and economic development.

As Canada consults with other governments in the region, it will focus on five key areas of the human security approach where more can be accomplished in working against the effects of illicit drugs: governance; small arms and firearms; development and trade; education and health; and public engagement. This list is not exhaustive, but is a starting point for dialogue with other countries of the hemisphere.

- 30 -

A backgrounder summarizing Canada's approach is attached.

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## Backgrounder

### DRUGS AND HUMAN SECURITY

Illicit drugs pose formidable challenges to all the countries in the Americas. The consumption of synthetic and plant-based drugs is particularly alarming in North America but demand for these narcotics is growing in the rest of the hemisphere. Drug abuse has deleterious effects on individual consumers and on families. Abuse and production feed off rural poverty, criminality and urban decay; they also aggravate these social problems. Scarce public revenues are diverted from productive activities. Economies are distorted, democracy is threatened, and the relations between states are jeopardized by the frustrations of dealing with this transnational problem.

A web of international instruments has been crafted, at the global and hemispheric levels, to confront the challenges posed by drugs. Many governments are investing resources to prevent drug abuse through education, to treat and rehabilitate addicts through health interventions, to eradicate illicit crops and foster alternative development. They are also acting to control the manufacture of synthetic drugs and the diversion of precursor chemicals, to interdict drugs trafficking within and across borders, and to reduce the money laundering, corruption and trafficking of small arms that buttress the illicit drugs industry.

The private sector, research centres and NGOs are important partners in many of these areas, especially in education, health, development and governance. Multilateral institutions, particularly the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and the UN International Drug Control Program, have contributed enormously by facilitating dialogue, fostering new standards, providing technical assistance as well as financial support. The current development of a Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism, under the auspices of CICAD, should enhance the assessment of national anti-drug efforts, promote learning from experience, and facilitate the management of inter-governmental relations in this important but sensitive area.

Yet from a human security perspective more can be done. Human security places the well-being of individuals and communities at the centre of our common search for security. It advocates holistic responses to multi-faceted problems like illicit drugs. It calls for the creation of dynamic partnerships between governments, international organizations and civil society. As such, a human security analysis leads us to conclude that five areas deserve greater attention:

- 1. Governance:** How could we enhance the capacity of police and judicial institutions to enforce the law while guaranteeing justice and human rights, and how can we build on efforts to minimize corruption and curtail the political influence of drug-related



criminal organizations?

**2. Small arms and firearms:** How could we work together to promote the ratification of the Inter-American Firearms Convention, the development of complementary global instruments and the strengthening of domestic institutions charged with implementing these standards?

**3. Development and trade:** How can we provide greater support for the development of legal productive activities as alternatives to illicit drug crops, and how could we enhance market access for these alternative goods?

**4. Education and health:** What can be done to generate greater international cooperation to promote preventative and curative approaches to drug abuse? How could we promote research on the effectiveness of demand reduction programs in different national settings?

**5. Public engagement:** How can we encourage public initiatives, and how might we involve sectors of the public in a dialogue on policy options, as appropriate?

This list is not meant to be exhaustive; it is simply a starting point for dialogue with other governments in the hemisphere. Nor does the proposal displace the central role of CICAD and other multilateral bodies; rather, it aims to generate greater support for existing initiatives in areas like demand reduction and development, and nurture the will to innovate themes like public engagement, which are critical to the pursuit of human security in the Americas.

Foreign Ministers will notice that there is considerable overlap between this list and the Santiago Summit Plan of Action. We believe that the human security perspective offers a useful bridge between the hemispheric anti-drug agenda and the broader summit process. As such, Canada proposes that these themes be explored by Foreign Ministers in mid-1999, on the occasion of the OAS General Assembly in Guatemala, and that this discussion be deepened in the lead-up to the next Summit of the Americas.

**Specifically, next steps for a dialogue among Foreign Ministers might include:**

- March 1999: Conference to present more in-depth research on the linkages between drugs and governance, small arms, alternative development and trade, education and health, and opportunities for public engagement in anti-drug efforts.
- June 1999: First Foreign Ministers Dialogue, at the margins of the OAS General Assembly in Guatemala, to review conclusions from the conference and mandate further research, dialogue and action.

- Mid-1999 to mid-2000: Possible meetings with broader stakeholders, to prepare the ground for deeper dialogue among Foreign Ministers.
- June 2000: Second Foreign Ministers Dialogue, at the margins of the OAS General Assembly. The aim could be to review actions taken on key issues at the intersection of drugs and human security in the hemisphere, to identify follow-up priorities before and beyond the next Summit of the Americas.
- 2000-2001: Foreign Ministers report on the results of their dialogue at the Summit of the Americas, in Canada. The aim of this report could be to obtain a mandate for further action, and possibly dialogue, on drugs and human security priorities.

Throughout this process, the Summit Implementation and Review Group should be kept fully informed about the results of the Foreign Ministers Dialogue.





# News Release

January 11, 1999

(12:45 p.m. EST)

No. 2

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES MINE ACTION FUNDING FOR LATIN AMERICA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau today announced a contribution of \$1.1 million to support mine action projects in Nicaragua, Peru and Ecuador. The announcement was made today in Mexico City where Mr. Axworthy was participating in a regional conference, jointly hosted by Canada and Mexico, to advance the mine action agenda in the Western Hemisphere.

"The support of these countries, and this region in general, was key to the speed and success of the Ottawa Process and the treaty banning anti-personnel (AP) mines," said Mr. Axworthy. "Action is needed to help this region as it continues to cope with the deadly legacy of the conflicts and instability of another era. I am pleased that Canada can contribute to the practical implementation of the Ottawa Treaty in these countries, and help to make a real difference in the lives of people who live daily with the ongoing threat of AP mines."

"The catastrophic devastation of Hurricane Mitch in the Central American region has not only created enormous human suffering, but has completely changed the mine situation of the region," said Madame Marleau. "We hope that by our contribution to the demining effort, we will be increasing the personal security of the people of Nicaragua as they rebuild their country."

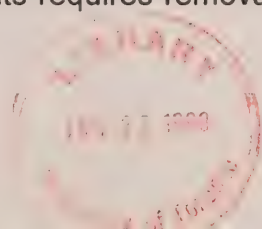
Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency, is contributing \$1 million over two years to a mine clearance project in Nicaragua. The project, which is being managed by the Organization of American States, has been complicated further in the wake of Hurricane Mitch. Areas previously demined now need to be surveyed and, in some cases, recleared. Canada and Norway — which have a broad-ranging mine action partnership around the world — are co-operating on this project. Norway is also contributing \$1 million to this effort.

Mr. Axworthy also announced a further \$100 000 to support mine clearance along the border between Peru and Ecuador as part of the peace agreements between these countries. Implementing these agreements requires removal of AP mines to permit



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the demarcation of the agreed common border area. Canada's contribution will be used to purchase equipment to improve the speed and safety of Peruvian and Ecuadorian demining efforts.

In November 1998, Ministers Axworthy and Marleau announced a \$3.7 million contribution for mine action in Central America in the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch.

Funding for the projects announced today will come from the five-year \$100 million Canadian Landmine Fund announced in December 1997 at the signing conference for the Ottawa Convention.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

January 11, 1999

(4:15 p.m. EST)

No. 3

## CANADA WELCOMES RELEASE OF NORBERT REINHART

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the release of Norbert Reinhart who had been held captive by leftist rebels in Colombia for over three months.

"These lengthy kidnappings, first of Edward Leonard and then of Mr. Reinhart, were cruel and inhumane," said Mr. Axworthy. "The taking of innocent civilians in any circumstances is unacceptable. This outcome, in having Mr. Reinhart released, was made possible only by very active co-operation and a deep commitment by several interested parties."

Mr. Axworthy expressed appreciation for the excellent co-operation Canada received from the Colombian authorities, the Catholic Church of Colombia, Greystar Resources Inc. and the International Committee of the Red Cross in seeking the release of Mr. Reinhart.

Minister Axworthy also expressed satisfaction that the peace process between the government of Colombia and leftist forces is now underway. Canada firmly supports this process and is ready to lend assistance, if requested by the parties, to these difficult and protracted discussions. The Canadian Ambassador to Colombia, William Ross, attended the inauguration of peace talks on January 7, 1999, at the invitation of Colombian President Andrés Pastrana.

Canada deplores the massacre of more than 100 Colombian civilians over the last several days by paramilitary groups who are not currently involved in the peace process.

- 30 -

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# News Release

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January 13, 1999

(11:15 a.m. EST)

No. 4

## MARCHI ANNOUNCES PROGRAM TO ASSIST CANADIAN COMMUNITIES IN ATTRACTING FOREIGN INVESTORS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced an expansion of the government's popular Program for Export Market Development (PEMD) to now include foreign investment promotion. The new program, called PEMD-I, will offer \$5 million annually to assist local levels of government and their private sector partners in attracting foreign investment to their communities.

"In today's global economy, export promotion and investment promotion go hand in hand," said Mr. Marchi. "By adding foreign investment promotion to the range of activities we can support through PEMD, we are extending the successful Team Canada approach to include federal support for local level partnerships seeking to attract foreign investment to their communities."

Minister Marchi made the announcement at the headquarters of the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton where he was welcomed by Regional Chair Bob Chiarelli and joined by First Vice-President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Deputy Mayor of Marystown, Newfoundland, Sam Synard, and President of the Economic Developers Association of Canada Robert Fine, as well as many others interested in municipal economic development.

"This is good news for Canada's municipalities," said FCM Vice-President Synard. "It will help local economic development officials and business people to improve the quality and effectiveness of their investment promotion efforts."

Also among the special guests at the announcement were the Mayors of Halifax and Winnipeg, and several mayors from the National Capital Region.

The extension of the PEMD program to include foreign investment promotion meets a Red Book commitment and is an integral part of the government's broader international business development strategy.

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## **Backgrounder**

### **LAUNCH OF PEMD-I**

#### **Foreign Investment Key to Canadian Prosperity**

The Red Book highlighted the importance of foreign direct investment (FDI) for the creation of jobs and prosperity in Canada, and it made a commitment to financially assist Canadian communities in their efforts to attract, retain and expand foreign investment. Since early days, investment capital from sources outside Canada has played a key role in the development and expansion of the country's economy. Today, an estimated 11 percent of Canadian employment is due directly to FDI (as compared with 4 percent in the United States). More than 50 percent of Canadian exports and 75 percent of manufacturing exports are due to FDI.

Canada continues to shift from an economy based on resources to one based on advanced technology. As it does, it faces increasing competitive pressures from the global economy. In these circumstances, it is more important than ever to promote linkages between Canada and international capital markets, and to continue to attract foreign investors to Canada.

In order to meet its Red Book commitment, the federal government is expanding its Program for Export Market Development (PEMD) to include support for non-profit public-/private-sector partnerships working to encourage FDI at the local level. By financially assisting community-based foreign investment promotion campaigns, the new PEMD-I will help create jobs, encourage technological development and strengthen the competitive position of the Canadian economy over the long term.

#### **Canada Attracts a Decreasing Share of International Investment**

As of the end of 1997, FDI in Canada totalled more than \$187 billion and was spread broadly across major sectors of the Canadian economy. Over the last decade, FDI in Canada almost doubled from around \$96 billion in 1986.

But while the level of FDI in the Canadian economy continues to increase, Canada's share of the international investment pie is actually decreasing — from 11 percent in 1980 to 4 percent in 1997.

In an international marketplace that is expanding and becoming increasingly competitive, it is important that Canada be better prepared and better positioned in order to continue to attract the kind of FDI that will create jobs and prosperity in communities throughout the country.



## Foreign Investment Promotion at the Community Level

There are approximately 4400 municipalities in Canada. Approximately 300 mid-sized and larger communities have economic development programs intended to stimulate investment and job creation. The budgets for these programs can range from a few thousand dollars to over \$2 million in the case of urban or regional economic development agencies. Many communities, however, do not have investment promotion as an integral part of their economic development programs, and many community officials need to be better equipped to identify and present local strengths to potential business investors.

The new PEMD-I program will help community-based investment promotion initiatives by bringing the Team Canada approach to this strategically important area of international business development. It will encourage greater co-operation between the public and private sectors, and will enhance the level of excellence of foreign investment promotion in Canada.

### A Two-Tier Approach

PEMD-I support will be available to non-profit public-/private-sector partnerships working at the local level to attract new FDI to the communities concerned. The federal contribution will act as a catalyst for contributions from other levels of government and from the private sector. Private-sector involvement is required for federal participation under PEMD-I. Support will be based on a two-tier approach to defining and meeting community-level needs. Communities must present a business case for their project proposals.

- Under **PEMD-I Tier One**, support will be provided to smaller projects in communities seeking to become "investment-ready." Program activities will include training, data base development, studies, development of plans, and implementation of investment attraction initiatives. The program will support up to 50 percent of eligible costs, to a maximum of \$50 000 per project.

PEMD-I Tier One will be administered by federal officials at the provincial/territorial level. Applications will be made to, and adjudicated by, a committee of federal, provincial, municipal and private-sector representatives, chaired by the Senior Trade Commissioner in the Federal International Trade Centre in each province.

- Under **PEMD-I Tier Two**, support will be offered to more comprehensive projects that are designed to directly attract investment into Canada and are incremental to ongoing community-level economic development programs. Tier Two will be administered on a national basis by the Department of Foreign

Affairs and International Trade. Project applications requesting federal support in the \$50 000 to \$300 000 range will be evaluated on a nationwide competitive basis. The emphasis will be on promoting excellence in community-based foreign investment promotion.

PEMD-I will emphasize the development of content for foreign investment promotion campaigns, but the program will not support costs of foreign travel.





# News Release

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January 16, 1999

No. 5

## AXWORTHY CONDEMNS MASSACRE IN KOSOVO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today condemned the murder on January 15 of civilians in the village of Racak in Kosovo. According to monitors from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's Kosovo Verification Mission, at least 35 civilians, including women and a child, were murdered execution style.

"Canada condemns this despicable victimization of civilians and demands that the perpetrators be held fully accountable for their actions," said Minister Axworthy.

A team of investigators from the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, led by Chief Prosecutor Louise Arbour, intends to travel to Kosovo immediately to investigate the site of the massacre. The Tribunal has a mandate to prosecute those who commit war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide in the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

"Canada expects the Yugoslav authorities to meet their obligations under international law by co-operating fully with the Tribunal's investigations, including by granting full and immediate access to the investigators. There can be no peace in Kosovo without justice," said Minister Axworthy.

Canada calls once again for an immediate end to all violence and violations of human rights and humanitarian law in Kosovo.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

CANADA ON THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL 1999-2000

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/ONU2000UN>

January 22, 1999

(1:15 p.m. EST)

No. 6

## AXWORTHY ADDRESSES NATIONAL FORUM ON CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today discussed Canada's role over the next two years as a member of the United Nations Security Council with participants at the Montreal meeting of the 1999 National Forum on Canada's International Relations. The Forum, organized by the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development (CCFPD), comprises annual meetings in various regions across Canada to encourage broad public participation in discussions about Canada's foreign policy. These meetings bring together academics, youth, business and labour representatives, as well as non-governmental organizations.

"I am pleased to be meeting with this group of interested Canadians today to talk about Canada's term on the Security Council and the excellent opportunity this gives us to enhance our contribution to global peace and security," said Mr. Axworthy. "By participating directly in decision making in international efforts to prevent and resolve conflicts, Canada can now play a more active role in working toward peaceful outcomes. As a major contributor to almost all UN peacekeeping operations, since the first one in 1956, Canada has a substantial stake in Council decisions."

"However, much has changed since 1956," added Minister Axworthy. "Conflicts within states and increased threats to civilians have greatly increased the risks for individuals in modern conflict situations. One of our priorities as a Council member will be to include human security concerns such as peacebuilding and humanitarian issues in Council discussions alongside traditional security issues."

In line with Canada's commitment to fostering openness and transparency within the Council, Mr. Axworthy took the opportunity of this meeting to launch two new departmental sources for public information.

A new Internet site dedicated to providing information on Canada's activities during its two-year Security Council term can be found at <<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/ONU2000UN>>. It will include all formal Canadian statements made at the Council and Canadian news releases relating to the Security Council's work and decisions. It will also link visitors directly to related sites within the Department's regular Internet site, the United Nations' site, the CCFPD site and others.





Mr. Axworthy also presented the second edition of *Canada World View*, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's new foreign policy magazine. This issue focusses on Canada's 53-year history at the United Nations and, in particular, our current two-year term as a Security Council member. Printed copies of the magazine are available by calling 1-800-267-8376 or 944-4000 in the Ottawa/Hull region, or can be found on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site.

Canada was elected to its Security Council seat on October 8, 1998, on a first ballot decision with 131 votes. The Security Council comprises five permanent members — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — and ten elected members whose seats are allocated among five regional groups for two-year terms each. Canada and the Netherlands will serve as representatives of the Western Europe and Others Group (WEOG) from January 1, 1999, to December 31, 2000.

This is Canada's sixth term on the Security Council. Canada first served on the Council during the 1948-1949 term and has been a member approximately once every decade since then.

The first meeting of the 1999 National Forum took place in Saint John, New Brunswick, on January 8. Today's meeting in Montreal will be followed by one in Vancouver on January 29, and a follow-up meeting in Toronto at a date yet to be determined.

- 30 -

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# News Release

January 22, 1999

(7:15 p.m. EST)

No. 7

## KILGOUR TO TRAVEL TO LATIN AMERICA TO PROMOTE CANADA'S HEMISPHERIC DIALOGUE ON DRUGS INITIATIVE

Secretary of State David Kilgour (Latin America and Africa) will visit Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador, January 25 to 29, 1999, to meet with the foreign ministers of those countries to promote the Foreign Ministers' Dialogue Group on Drugs. The Dialogue Group, an initiative launched by Canada earlier this month, is designed to address the broad impact of illicit drugs on the hemisphere.

"Canada launched this initiative in response to the effects of the trade and use of illicit drugs on society," said Mr. Kilgour. "We believe that dialogue among the countries of the Americas can be an effective mechanism to deal concretely with the problem of illicit drugs, which affects human security within the entire hemisphere."

The intention to create the Foreign Ministers' Dialogue Group on Drugs was announced by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien during the April 1998 Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile. The Dialogue Group was launched officially by Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy in Jamaica on January 8, 1999. As a starting point, a working meeting will be held this spring, which will bring together participants from the hemisphere, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to discuss the effects of illicit drugs on key aspects of human welfare and security, such as education, health and governance.

- 30 -

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

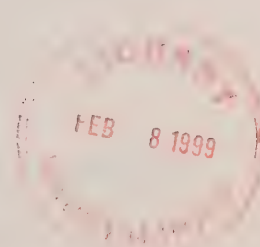
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## Backgrounder

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A web of international instruments has been crafted, at the global and hemispheric levels, to confront the challenges posed by drugs. Many governments are investing resources to prevent drug abuse through education, to treat and rehabilitate addicts through health interventions, to eradicate illicit crops and foster alternative development. They are also acting to control the manufacture of synthetic drugs and the diversion of precursor chemicals, to interdict drugs trafficking within and across borders, and to reduce the money laundering, corruption and trafficking of small arms that buttress the illicit drugs industry.

The private sector, research centres and NGOs are important partners in many of these areas, especially in education, health, development and governance. Multilateral institutions, particularly the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and the UN International Drug Control Program, have contributed enormously by facilitating dialogue, fostering new standards, providing technical assistance as well as financial support. The current development of a Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism, under the auspices of CICAD, should enhance the assessment of national anti-drug efforts, promote learning from experience, and facilitate the management of inter-governmental relations in this important but sensitive area.

Yet from a human security perspective more can be done. Human security places the well-being of individuals and communities at the centre of our common search for security. It advocates holistic responses to multi-faceted problems like illicit drugs. It calls for the creation of dynamic partnerships between governments, international organizations and civil society. As such, a human security analysis leads us to conclude that five areas deserve greater attention:

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**4. Education and health:** What can be done to generate greater international co-operation to promote preventative and curative approaches to drug abuse? How could we promote research on the effectiveness of demand reduction programs in different national settings?

**5. Public engagement:** How can we encourage public initiatives, and how might we involve sectors of the public in a dialogue on policy options, as appropriate?

This list is not meant to be exhaustive; it is simply a starting point for dialogue with other governments in the hemisphere. Nor does the proposal displace the central role of CICAD and other multilateral bodies; rather, it aims to generate greater support for existing initiatives in areas like demand reduction and development, and nurture the will to innovate themes like public engagement, which are critical to the pursuit of human security in the Americas.

Foreign Ministers will notice that there is considerable overlap between this list and the Santiago Summit Plan of Action. We believe that the human security perspective offers a useful bridge between the hemispheric anti-drug agenda and the broader summit process. As such, Canada proposes that these themes be explored by Foreign Ministers in mid-1999, on the occasion of the OAS General Assembly in Guatemala, and that this discussion be deepened in the lead-up to the next Summit of the Americas.

**Specifically, next steps for a dialogue among Foreign Ministers might include:**

- March 1999: Conference to present more in-depth research on the linkages between drugs and governance, small arms, alternative development and trade, education and health, and opportunities for public engagement in anti-drug efforts.
- June 1999: First Foreign Ministers Dialogue, at the margins of the OAS General Assembly in Guatemala, to review conclusions from the conference and mandate further research, dialogue and action.
- Mid-1999 to mid-2000: Possible meetings with broader stakeholders, to prepare the ground for deeper dialogue among Foreign Ministers.
- June 2000: Second Foreign Ministers Dialogue, at the margins of the OAS General Assembly. The aim could be to review actions taken on

key issues at the intersection of drugs and human security in the hemisphere, to identify follow-up priorities before and beyond the next Summit of the Americas.

- 2000-2001: Foreign Ministers report on the results of their dialogue at the Summit of the Americas, in Canada. The aim of this report could be to obtain a mandate for further action, and possibly dialogue, on drugs and human security priorities.

Throughout this process, the Summit Implementation and Review Group should be kept fully informed about the results of the Foreign Ministers Dialogue.





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# News Release

January 25, 1999

(10:00 a.m. EST)

No. 8

## AXWORTHY URGES ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA TO AGREE TO OAU MEDIATION

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today reiterated his full support for the Organization of African Unity (OAU) resolutions and mediation efforts to end the nine-month Ethiopian-Eritrean border dispute.

"Canada urges both countries to exercise restraint and use all possible resources to find a peaceful resolution to the conflict," said Mr. Axworthy. "We urge Ethiopia and Eritrea to co-operate fully with the OAU and to accept and implement their mediation proposals without further delay." The Ethiopian government has announced its formal acceptance of these proposals, while the Eritrean government so far has not accepted them.

Mr. Axworthy expressed concern that the continued troop concentration along the common border could risk an escalation of hostilities. He pressed both governments to respect the provisions of international humanitarian law, in particular toward prisoners of war, civilian internees and other foreign nationals affected by the conflict.

The OAU Framework Agreement called for Eritrea's troop withdrawal from the disputed border area to the original boundaries held before May 6, 1998, for the presence of OAU military observers with UN support and for the demarcation of the border under UN auspices.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has upgraded its travel reports and recommends that Canadians defer travel to Eritrea and non-essential travel to Ethiopia until further notice. Measures have been taken concerning safety and security issues for Canadians in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

- 30 -



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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

January 25, 1999

(10:15 a.m. EST)

No. 9

## **AXWORTHY CONDEMNS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO AND URGES AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE**

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed his growing concern over the various reports of human rights abuses in the Makabola and the Ubangi regions of the Democratic Republic of Congo. He urged President Laurent Kabila to co-operate with the UN Special Rapporteur mandated to investigate the alleged incidents.

"The UN Special Rapporteur must be permitted to shed light on these allegations," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada reminds all parties that they will be held fully accountable for any breaches in humanitarian law and human rights."

The Minister reiterated his support for African leaders in their efforts to initiate a cease-fire, the withdrawal of all foreign troops and the beginning of an all-inclusive political discussion process to settle the current dispute.

"A sustained armed conflict can only result in the death and injury of more innocent civilians," said Mr. Axworthy. "It is imperative that all parties resume negotiations toward a cessation of hostilities."

- 30 -

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# News Release

January 25, 1999

(3:15 p.m. EST)

No. 10

## MARCHI WITNESSES SIGNING OF CANADIAN BUSINESS DEALS IN POLAND

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today witnessed in Warsaw the signing of 38 commercial agreements worth an estimated \$132 million between Canadian firms and their Polish counterparts.

"Today's agreements demonstrate the increasing level of Canadian trade and investment in Poland," said Mr. Marchi. "They also help confirm Poland's successful transition to a market economy and its position as an attractive investment destination in Central Europe."

Today's signings include 10 contracts worth \$17 million, 10 memorandums of understanding valued at \$47 million and 18 letters of intent worth \$68 million. The deals, signed in most part by small and medium-sized enterprises, are concentrated in the following sectors: agri-food, construction, energy and natural resources, information technology, as well as less traditional fields such as assistance for the disabled and crisis management.

In Warsaw, Minister Marchi accompanied Prime Minister Chrétien to an expanded meeting with Polish Prime Minister Buzek to discuss bilateral and multilateral issues, including the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and Poland's impending accession to NATO. On January 26, Mr. Marchi will also meet Polish Minister of the Economy Janusz Steinhoff and deliver a speech to the Canada-Poland Business Club.

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A backgrounder on the business deals is attached.

This document is also available on the Department's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site:  
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## Backgrounder

### LIST OF NEW BUSINESS INITIATIVES ANNOUNCED TODAY IN WARSAW, POLAND

#### AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD

**Global Enterprises International Inc.**, North Vancouver, British Columbia. Global Enterprises International Inc. has signed a memorandum of understanding with three Polish deep sea fishing companies, Dalmor, Gryf and Odra, agreeing to service and supply their vessels in the Port of Vancouver during participation in the British Columbia Joint Venture Hake Fishery. The five-year agreement is valued at \$20 million, with Canadian content valued at \$17 million.

Global Enterprises International Inc. has also signed a contract to sell packaging materials and deck and engine supplies to Odra Deep Sea Fishing Company of Swinoujscie, for a Canadian content value of \$2 million.

Global Enterprises International Inc. has also signed a contract to purchase fishmeal from Odra Deep Sea Fishing Company of Swinoujscie through their joint venture company, Universal Marine Inc., for a Canadian content value of \$8 million.

**The Semex Alliance**, Guelph, Ontario. The Semex Alliance and Osrodek Hodowli Zarodowej Osieciny Sp. z o.o. of Osieciny have signed a contract to establish a manufacturing, marketing and technology training business in the field of dairy and beef production in Poland. The project is valued at \$400 000, with \$350 000 in Canadian content.

#### CONSTRUCTION

**ADI International Ltd.**, Fredericton, New Brunswick, **WCI Waste Conversion**, Ottawa, Ontario, and **WCI NATCO**, Siemonia, Poland. ADI International Ltd., WCI Waste Conversion and WCI NATCO are members of a consortium that is signing a letter of intent with the Management Board of the City of Zabrze, Poland. The parties have agreed to co-operate in the development of various housing units, including single dwellings and low-rise apartments employing Canadian house-building technology. The project is valued at \$10 million for Phase I, of which \$2 million is Canadian content.

**Atlantic Canada Home (ACH)**, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. Atlantic Canada Home and Steve Dec, a Polish businessman, have signed a letter of intent to build a model home in Poland, one hour outside Warsaw. The home will provide a showcase for Atlantic Canada Home's exclusive agent in Poland to promote ACH's building

materials and services. The estimated value of the model home will be \$150 000, with a Canadian content value of \$80 000.

**DTM Associates Ltd.**, Mississauga, Ontario. DTM Associates Ltd. has signed a letter of intent with the Polish-Canadian Institute 21 of Ostrow Wielkopolski, Poland, to co-operate in the Ostrow region in residential, industrial, and commercial land development, municipal infrastructure and transfer of technology. The estimated value of the projects in the years 2000-2005 is in excess of \$60 million, with a Canadian content of approximately \$4 million.

DTM has also signed a letter of intent with the Building Corporation DORACO Ltd. of Gdansk. The companies wish to co-operate in the areas of construction and land development. Among the first projects is the construction of a food processing facility in southern Asia with an estimated project value of \$15 million, and Canadian content of \$1.5 million. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2002.

**Gemite Products Inc.**, Mississauga, Ontario. Gemite Products Inc. and Prefabet Kozienice S.A. are forming a new joint venture company, which will be licensed to manufacture and market a patented building system, Omni-Globe, in Poland. Omni-Globe Building System has been developed by Gemite to satisfy the growing worldwide demand for affordable housing. Omni-Globe combines local materials, labour and advanced Canadian technology to allow quick construction of high-quality residential and commercial buildings. The joint venture is valued at \$20 million over five years, with a Canadian content of \$4 million.

**Martec Recycling Corporation**, Vancouver, British Columbia. Martec Recycling Corporation and Huta Stalowa Wola S.A. (HSW) have signed a memorandum of understanding for the establishment of a new manufacturing division (Martec Poland), to be located in a Special Economic Zone at Stalowa Wola. HSW will become an equity partner in Martec, with responsibility to mass produce an advanced version of Martec's AR 2000 system for hot in-place recycling of asphalt roads and highways. The new system will be manufactured to all international standards, including ISO quality assurance and quality control, and will be marketed globally. The project will commence in 1999, with an initial production run of five recycling trains valued at \$20 million. The total anticipated yearly production during the first five years will average 20 complete recycling trains, with annual sales valued at \$80 million.

**SC Infrastructure Inc.**, Calgary, Alberta. SC Infrastructure Inc. has signed four subcontract agreements valued at \$38 million with Polish companies as part of its project to construct a grain terminal facility in the port of Gdansk. The Polish firms involved are Sand Gdansk for site work, Sunley Polska for the construction of the administration building, Hydrobudowa for piling, and MISTRA for civil works (not in signing ceremony).



## CONSUMER GOODS

**Dalimpex Ltd.** has also agreed to a contract valued at \$1.5 million with Leaf Poland Ltd. of Warsaw, a chocolate manufacturer. Under the contract, Dalimpex will import sesame snaps, a popular snack for consumers, for distribution in Canada and the United States.

## ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

**BCGas International**, Vancouver, British Columbia. BCGas International and the Polish Oil and Gas Company will sign a letter of intent for the creation of a joint venture company to develop gas distribution and other related projects in Poland. The intention of the joint venture is that it will act as the focal point for developing Polish-Canadian co-operation and investments in the gas and related hydrocarbon sector. Phase I of the project is valued at \$40 million, with \$20 million in Canadian content.

**Export Development Corporation**, Ottawa, Ontario. Export Development Corporation (EDC) and the Polish Oil and Gas Company (POGC) have reached a memorandum of understanding to assist in the promotion of trade contacts between Poland and Canada to establish an ongoing relationship between POGC and EDC. As well, it will outline the basis on which each party enter into specific financing transactions regarding the export to Poland of goods and services in the oil and gas sector meeting the Canadian benefits requirements of EDC.

**ESI Ecosystems International Ltd.**, Montreal, Quebec. ESI Ecosystems and Pumped Storage Power Plants of Warsaw have signed a contract to build three (out of 12 identified) hydroelectric power plants on the Odra river using Canadian technology for ultra-low head turbines. The project is phased over three years, with a Canadian content estimated at \$6 million for Phase 1.

**Klohn-Crippen Consultants Ltd.**, Vancouver, British Columbia and **Northland Energy International Ltd.**, Richmond, British Columbia. Klohn-Crippen Consultants Ltd., and Northland Energy International Ltd. have agreed to form a limited liability company — Vector — with Polish utility the Pump Storage Plant Company and the Polish Grid Company International. Vector's mandate will be to identify and analyze suitable projects for investment both in Poland and overseas. The focus will be on infrastructure projects; beginning with opportunities in the energy sector. Vector's team of specialists, both Polish and Canadian, will include experts in finance, economics, contracts, engineering and operations. Revenues for the first three years are projected at \$100 million, with Canadian content valued at \$30 million.

**Merol Power Corporation**, Barry's Bay, Ontario. Merol Power Corporation in alliance with Elektrim-Elektryka S.A. of Warsaw have formed a joint venture company to develop a 1 MW hydro-electric facility in Lesno Gorne. The \$3 million project is



scheduled to commence construction in September 1999 with the creation of 20 full-time positions. New Canadian technologies including water turbines and a plant control package will be installed with an estimated Canadian content value of \$1.5 million.

**North American Energy Systems**, Delta, British Columbia. North America Energy Systems has signed a letter of intent with Infrastructura of Piastow for the supply of gas turbine equipment to be used in the production of electricity and community heating. Infrastructura is owned by the town of Piastow and is responsible for the supply of the municipality's heat and power. The new system will replace outdated coal-fired equipment.

**REF TEK Canada Inc.**, Calgary, Alberta. REF TEK Canada Inc., which represents Canadian energy companies in Central Europe, and Geofizyka Torun Sp. z.o.o., a Polish Geophysical exploration company, have agreed to a licensing agreement to permit Geofizyka to utilize a 3-D exploration software package to enhance their capabilities in oil exploration. The value of the agreement is \$220 000.

**B.P.T. Components and Parts Inc.**, Sudbury, Ontario. B.P.T. Components and Parts Inc. and Rudna Mine of Polkowice have signed a letter of intent to provide a telecommunications system designed for mining applications, as well as underground crushing equipment, custom designed for Rudna Mine. The value of both agreements is \$3.05 million, with a Canadian content value of \$2.25 million.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**CIE Research Inc.**, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. CIE Research Inc. and Zakaldy Elektromechaniczne S.I. Elektra of Warsaw have agreed to a joint venture that will permit Elektra to market CIE's electronic display technology in Poland through a licensing agreement. The value for CIE over the next 10 years is estimated at \$10 million.

**Teleglobe Inc.**, Montreal, Quebec. Teleglobe's project in Poland is with Telekomunikacja Polska S.A. (T.P.S.A.), of the Polish PTT located in Warsaw, Poland. Teleglobe will provide T.P.S.A. global Internet access via our ATM network at 45 mbps. T.P.S.A. will use the Teleglobe connection to distribute ATM and Internet services to businesses and consumers throughout Poland. T.P.S.A. is now one of Poland's largest and most successful Internet service providers as a result of previous joint activities between Teleglobe and T.P.S.A.

## MANUFACTURING

**Dalimpex Ltd.**, Mississauga, Ontario. Dalimpex Ltd. has agreed to a contract valued at \$2 million with Metalexport Ltd. of Warsaw, a leading exporter of machine tools made by several Polish manufacturers.

**Techmire Ltd.**, Anjou, Quebec. Techmire Ltd., the global leader in the design and manufacture of multiple-slide die casting machines, has announced it has completed its first sale of a Model 22NT machine to CBD S.C. of Kedzierzyn, Poland. CBD will use Techmire's technology to supply components to customers in the construction, electronic and automotive industries. The agreement calls for the purchase of additional machines in the near future. The Canadian content of this project is valued at \$200 000.

## PHARMACEUTICALS

**Axcan Pharma**, Mont Saint-Hilaire, Quebec. Axcan Pharma has signed a letter of intent to acquire 50 percent of Bonne Santé Sp. z.o.o of Poland and 50 percent of Czeta Pharma, a Canadian company with representation in Poland. The transaction will enable Axcan to introduce its products, mainly in the field of gastroenterology, into the rapidly growing Polish market. The value of the agreement is \$6 million, with a Canadian content of \$4 million.

## SERVICES

**Adapt Ability**, Toronto, Ontario. Adapt Ability and the Foundation for People with Muscular Dystrophy of Szczecin have agreed to a pilot project in Zachodnio-Pomorskie province. Adapt Ability will provide expertise, quality control, training and equipment needed to facilitate the use of power wheelchairs in Poland. The project is valued at \$3.5 million, with \$1.75 million Canadian content, and is expected to last 12 to 18 months, with subsequent expansion to the 15 other provinces in Poland.

**Axyn Canada**, Ottawa, Ontario. Axyn Canada and Unitra-Axyn of Warsaw have signed a letter of intent to undertake the provision of a crisis management centre for the Polish Ministry of the Interior and Administration. This project will lead to the design and construction of a centre for the Ministry of the Interior and Administration to deal with potential crises associated with the year 2000 computer problem, and with natural disasters such as the severe flooding in southern Poland in 1998. The agreement is valued at \$30 million, with a Canadian content value estimated at \$20 million.

**Unitra-Axyn**, a wholly owned subsidiary of AXYN Corporation, is signing a memorandum of understanding with MINEX sp. z.o.o. It is agreed that AXYN will provide technology for Y2K remediation, expertise and control. The project is valued



at \$1 million, with \$500 000 Canadian content value. Canadian participation is expected to last at least three years.

**Unitra-Axyn**, a wholly owned subsidiary of AXYN Corporation, is signing a memorandum of understanding with Energo-Project Sp. z.o.o. to provide technology for Y2K remediation, expertise and control. The project is valued at \$3 million, \$1.5 million of which is Canadian content value. Canadian participation is expected to last at least three years.

**BDO-Ryk Oliver Corporation**, Vancouver, British Columbia and Ottawa, Ontario. Ryk Oliver Corporation, in association with BDO Dunwoody Chartered Accountants and Management Consultants, in partnership with the Municipal Development Agency (MDA) of Warsaw, will provide training over a three-year period to Polish municipalities in the financing of infrastructure projects through the use of municipal bonds. The program is called the Municipal Partnership Program for Poland (MPPP). The project is supported by a contribution from the Canadian International Development Agency, Central and Eastern Europe Branch. The agreement is valued at \$1.1 million, with a Canadian content of \$675 000.

**Commodity House Inc.**, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Commodity House Inc. has signed a memorandum of understanding with Victus-Agro Sp. z.o.o. of Poznan, regarding future advancements of their bilateral relationship. Victus-Agro prepares for distribution of Canadian natural (seaweed) fertilizers, which are then sold by Commodity House. Commodity House works on development of sales of Polish starch products in North America, supplied for industry and food purposes by Victus-Agro.

Commodity House Inc. has also signed a letter of intent with Palma of Siedlce stating the expansion of relations and possible inclusion of additional lines of products into their trading. The estimated Canadian value of this project is \$50 000.

Commodity House Inc. has also signed a letter of intent with Sanachem Handel regarding future developments of their trading.

**Positron Inc.**, Montreal, Quebec. Positron Public Safety Systems Inc. and the Region of Lublin are signing a memorandum of understanding to jointly develop a 1-1-2 public safety system serving the population of Lublin. The estimated value of the venture is \$6 million.

**RSW-Ecosystem Inc.**, Montreal, Quebec. RSW Ecosystem and Biprogeo S.A. of Wroclaw have signed a memorandum of understanding to submit a project to the World Bank to provide consulting and engineering services for the management of rivers, lakes and reservoirs, especially in southern Poland, aimed at reducing the risk



of flooding. A second aim of the project is to further knowledge-transfer in this field. The project is valued at \$121 million, with a Canadian content of \$27 million.

## **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)**, Montréal, Québec. UQAM and the Warsaw School of Economics (WSE) have signed an agreement to further their 10-year relationship, as well as to provide Canadian management expertise to Eastern Europe. UQAM first signed a co-operation agreement with WSE in 1989. Following this agreement, a Canadian Management Training and Development Program was launched in 1991 with financial assistance from the Canadian government. The financing for this program will end in December 2000. The annual value of the agreement is \$450 000, with a Canadian content value of \$150 000.

## **FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**St. Stanislaus-St. Casimir's Polish Parishes Credit Union**, Toronto, Ontario. St. Stanislaus-St. Casimir's Polish Parishes Credit Union and Pol-Can Bank S.A. of Warsaw have signed a letter of intent to establish facilities to spur the growth of trade between Poland and Canada, including the development of business support services and a program of representation and matching. The agreement is valued at \$500 000, with Canadian content valued at \$200 000.

## **MEDICAL SERVICES**

**Smith and Tomyak International Inc.**, Gloucester, Ontario. Smith and Tomyak International Inc. of Gloucester, Ont. and Farmed Sp. z.o.o. of Warsaw have signed a memorandum of understanding to establish a joint venture to build and operate a hospital, MedCentre, with 150 beds and four operating theatres supporting four clinics. The agreement is valued at \$53 million, with an estimated \$27 million in Canadian content.



# News Release

January 26, 1999

(9:30 a.m. EST)

No. 11

## AXWORTHY TO VISIT NIGERIA AND GHANA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he will make official visits to Nigeria from January 26 to 27 and to Ghana on January 28.

In Abuja, Nigeria, Mr. Axworthy will meet with the head of state, General Abdulsalami Abubakar, and Foreign Affairs Minister Ignatius Ollisemeka to discuss the security situation in West and Central Africa and Nigeria's democratic transition process. He will also meet with the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission, Ephraim Akpata, and will unveil a plaque at the site of the new Canadian High Commission.

"Canada is encouraged by the progress made under Nigeria's program for transition to democracy and economic reform," said Mr. Axworthy. "We will continue to support Nigeria's transition to a democratically elected government, and are willing to consider a development assistance program."

In Accra, Ghana, Mr. Axworthy will meet with President Jerry John Rawlings to discuss issues such as children in armed conflict and co-operation between Ghanaian traditional chiefs and Canadian Aboriginal chiefs in the fields of social, economic and business development. He will also participate in a round table with non-governmental organizations and academics on human security issues.

Mr. Axworthy's trip to Nigeria is the first visit by a Canadian Foreign Affairs minister in eight years. The trip will give Mr. Axworthy the opportunity to observe recent positive developments in Nigeria, and to see first-hand how Canada's contribution to the election process is assisting the country in its progression toward civilian rule.

International monitors have characterized recent municipal and regional elections in Nigeria, held on December 5 and January 9, respectively, as having been free and fair. Federal and presidential elections are scheduled to be held on February 20 and 27. General Abubakar has promised to install a democratically elected civilian government by May 29 of this year.

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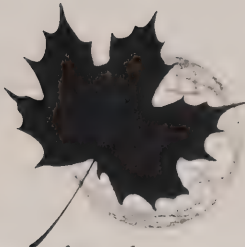
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# News Release

  
International Trade  
Commerce international

January 27, 1999

(12:00 p.m. EST)

No. 12

## MARCHI OPENS NEW CANADIAN LEARNING CENTRE IN KYIV

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today opened the first of a new generation of Canadian Education Marketing Centres at the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv, Ukraine. The opening took place during Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's first official visit to Ukraine.

Unlike Canadian Education Marketing Centres in Asia and Latin America, which are designed to attract international students to study in Canada, the Learning Centre in Kyiv will use a tailored Internet/Intranet system to showcase Canadian learning technologies as well as education training and services in Ukraine.

"The Learning Centre in Kyiv will help market the Canadian distance learning industry by giving Ukrainians immediate access to a broad range of state-of-the-art Canadian education and training services," said Mr. Marchi. "I am particularly pleased this Centre is opening as the result of Canadian public- and private-sector co-operation."

The Learning Centre will include Canada's world-recognized SchoolNet System, with Internet hookup provided by Teleglobe Canada. Leading server application technology will be furnished by Almerco International Inc. of Gatineau, Quebec. The Information Highway Applications Directorate of Industry Canada and the Office of Learning Technologies of Human Resource Development Canada have contributed financially to the Centre.

While the Learning Centre is located in the Embassy, additional access points will be established throughout Ukraine, including at leading Ukrainian universities. Once established, the Centre will seek working relationships with the Canadian Bureau for International Education and its many Ukrainian and Canadian partners.

Gerry Brown, President of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges of Canada, is pleased with the opening of the Learning Centre in Kyiv and with the involvement of Grant MacEwan College in Edmonton, Alberta. "The community colleges of Canada have been looking for a marketing vehicle that would help provide more ground support for our training capacities, especially our on-line facilities. With



the establishment of the Canadian Learning Centre, we think we have found it," said Mr. Brown.

The opening of the Centre will coincide with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Education Co-operation between Canada and Ukraine. This MOU reflects the increasing importance of education between Canada and Ukraine, and will provide a framework to stimulate bilateral education activities.

- 30 -

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## News Release

January 27, 1999

(4:00 p.m. EST)

No. 13

**AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION  
IN SUPPORT OF NIGERIAN ELECTIONS**

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau today announced Canada's contribution of \$750 000, provided under the Canadian International Development Agency's Peacebuilding Fund, to projects supporting fair and free elections in Nigeria. Canada will also contribute \$115 000 to a project supporting democratic development. The announcement was made during a two-day visit by Minister Axworthy to Abuja, Nigeria.

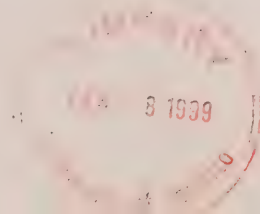
"Canada is encouraged by the way in which recent municipal and regional elections were conducted in Nigeria," said Mr. Axworthy. "I hope that Canadian contributions made today will assist both the electoral process and the peaceful transition to civilian rule promised by General Abubakar."

"By supporting Nigeria's move toward democracy, Canada is helping to advance overall development efforts in Africa's most populous country," said Madame Marleau. "This is a pivotal moment for the people of Nigeria, and an important step forward."

A contribution of \$500 000 will be made through the Peacebuilding Fund to the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development to support a coalition of non-governmental groups that are working together to ensure grassroots participation in the Nigerian elections. Activities include educating and mobilizing voters, monitoring the electoral process and tracking results.

A contribution of \$250 000 will also be made through the Peacebuilding Fund to assist the United Nations Secretariat in supporting efforts by Nigeria's Independent National Electoral Commission to hold fair and free elections. Activities that the Secretariat plans to undertake include providing technical assistance to local election officials and a base of operations for international election observers.

The Peacebuilding Fund is also supporting a \$115 000 project with the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance to provide analysis of the options



available to support the transition to democracy in Nigeria, and to promote both national and international democratic policy development in that country.

Municipal and regional elections took place on December 5 and January 9 respectively. Federal and presidential elections are scheduled to be held on February 20 and 27. Nigerian General Abubakar has promised to install a democratically elected civilian government by May 29 of this year.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1998 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

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# News Release

January 27, 1999

(5:45 p.m. EST)

No. 14

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES \$1 MILLION TOWARD RE-ESTABLISHING PEACE AND SECURITY IN SIERRA LEONE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that in response to the latest crisis in Sierra Leone, Canada will contribute \$1 million in support of the efforts of West African peacekeepers to re-establish stability there. The United Nations has identified an urgent need to assist forces of the Military Observer Group of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOMOG) as they work to restore security in that country.

"Canada is deeply disturbed by the atrocities committed during this conflict, particularly the terror inflicted upon children and civilians by the rebel groups," said Mr. Axworthy. "The situation in Sierra Leone illustrates the pressing need for the UN and its member states to take practical steps in order to protect civilians in armed conflict and curtail access to arms."

"In the wake of this new crisis in Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, I am consulting with my colleague Diane Marleau, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, about how Canada can best provide humanitarian assistance for those who have been victimized by this ongoing conflict," added Mr. Axworthy.

Secure and effective channels for delivery and distribution of humanitarian aid in Sierra Leone are important considerations. Equally important is the security of humanitarian workers, several of whom have already lost their lives in the conflict. Because of the grave security situation, most humanitarian organizations have withdrawn temporarily, as has the UN mission to Sierra Leone. The Canadian International Development Agency is in close contact with international humanitarian agencies to determine how best to provide assistance.

Canada's contribution comes amid reports of renewed atrocities committed against innocent civilians by the rebel Revolutionary United Front, and continuing efforts of the West African peacekeeping force ECOMOG to support the elected government of President Kabbah. The UN has chosen ECOMOG as its peacekeeping partner in the





region, and has called upon member states to provide assistance to ECOMOG and the Government of Sierra Leone.

The UN Security Council, of which Canada is currently a non-permanent member, has stated its support for the democratically elected Government of Sierra Leone and has urged the international community to provide financial support for ECOMOG, as well as to ensure the safety of humanitarian personnel.

"We are working closely with others to ensure that our assistance is effective and delivered as quickly as possible," said Mr. Axworthy. "We continue to support the democratically elected Government of Sierra Leone and call for an immediate cessation of the fighting."

The Minister made his announcement today in Ghana during a three-day visit to West Africa, where he is discussing the situation in Sierra Leone with the governments of Nigeria and Ghana.

- 30 -

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International Trade  
Commerce international

# News Release

January 28, 1999

(9:00 a.m. EST)

No. 15

## BUSINESS DEALS IN KYIV STRENGTHEN CANADA-UKRAINE RELATIONS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today witnessed the signing of 18 commercial agreements between Canadian and Ukrainian businesses worth \$163 million during a Canadian business development mission to Ukraine.

"The number and value of the agreements signed today send a strong message that Canada and Ukraine can do business," said Mr. Marchi. "It is only through a determined path of political and economic reform, however, that Ukraine can realize its full potential as an economic partner with Canada and other nations."

Today's signings included five contracts worth \$10 million, six memorandums of understanding valued at \$21 million, and seven letters of intent worth \$132 million. These signings came in a number of sectors, including agriculture, energy, construction and manufacturing. Nearly 150 Canadian businesses participated in the two-day business mission to Ukraine.

The business development missions to Ukraine and to Poland from January 25 to 28 led to a total of 56 signings worth \$295 million to Canadian businesses. The missions coincided with the first official visit by Prime Minister Chrétien to both countries.

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Backgrounders on the business deals and initiatives signed are attached.

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## Backgrounder

### LIST OF NEW BUSINESS INITIATIVES ANNOUNCED TODAY IN KYIV, UKRAINE

**4 Square Productions Ltd. of Regina, Saskatchewan**, has signed a contract with Novvy Kanal of Kyiv to co-produce two TV documentaries, *The Catacomb Church of Markova*, which deals with the tragedy and triumph of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada, Ukraine and the world, and *The Fatal Embrace: Ukrainians and Jews*, which explores the history of these two peoples. The total project value is \$500 000 and the Canadian content value is \$300 000.

**Aurora Pacific Consulting and Development Corporation of Vancouver, British Columbia**, and Specialized Quarry of Ivaniv have signed a contract to form a joint venture to establish Europe's largest abrasive garnet producing plant. The garnets will be used in Ukraine and exported to Europe for sand paper, sand blasting, high-pressure water jet cutting, and water filtration. The total project value is \$6 million with Canadian content value of \$3.2 million.

**Central Canadian Structures of Winnipeg, Manitoba**, has signed a memorandum of understanding with Darnitsia Pharmaceutical Company of Kyiv to upgrade and develop Darnitsia's production facilities. The objective is to improve the company's operating efficiency and increase its market share in the Ukrainian pharmaceutical industry. The first phase of development is expected to be worth approximately \$7.5 million with Canadian content of \$5.3 million.

**Central Canadian Structures** has also signed an agreement with Olvia Corporation of Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, to supply three energy-efficient houses that utilize the latest Canadian building technology. The project is valued at \$1 million with a Canadian content value of \$500 000.

**CMS Company Limited of Vancouver, British Columbia**, has signed a letter of intent to form a partnership with Almeta Co. Ltd. of Odessa to export and distribute Canadian-made building materials such as doors, windows and roofing materials, among others. The partnership will focus on establishing one-stop distribution centres in Odessa, Kyiv and other centres to target the \$3.7 billion new construction and renovation market in Ukraine. Projected sales for the first year are estimated at \$1 million in Canadian content.

**Consumers Packaging of Toronto, Ontario**, has signed a long-term contract with the MDMT Group of Kyiv to form a joint venture to provide high-quality bottles for Persha Hildia, Ukraine's most popular vodka. The project is valued at \$5 million over three years, all of which is Canadian content.

**Gemite Products Inc. of Mississauga, Ontario**, has signed a memorandum of understanding to form a new joint venture company that will manufacture and market Gemite's advanced construction and building materials and technologies in Ukraine. The joint venture will be operational in Kyiv later this year and in other regions of Ukraine in 2000. The project is valued at \$2 million over the next three years with over \$1.5 million in Canadian content.

**Geomat International of Montreal, Quebec**, and the Main Administration for Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre at the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine have exchanged letters of intent for the development of a new project for strengthening the Ukrainian information infrastructure for cartography and cadastre. The project is valued at \$7 million with \$4.2 million in Canadian content.

**McCain Foods Ltd. of Florenceville, New Brunswick**, a diversified frozen food company that produces a wide range of products from vegetables to juices to meat-based entrées, has undertaken a major feasibility study in Ukraine to identify possible investment opportunities in one or more of these fields of activities. One such opportunity is a project in Chernihiv oblast. Today, McCain Foods has signed a preliminary protocol with Interagrosistema to complete that company's project to build a plant for the production of French fries.

**Northland Power Inc. of Toronto, Ontario**, and its Ukrainian partners, the State Property Fund and Darnitsia Workers Collective, have agreed to sign with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development the financial term sheet for a \$240 million project to rehabilitate the Darnitsia power plant. The two-year reconstruction project will include the installation of a modern 140 MW combustion turbine and heat-recovery steam generator to repower the existing plant, reducing pollution emissions, increasing efficiency and doubling peak-mode electricity output. The Canadian content value of this project is \$35 million.

**Pharmascience Inc. of Montreal, Quebec**, has granted a licence to its subsidiary in Ukraine, Pharmascience-Ukraine. The licence is for the production of the anti-tuberculosis drug ISONIAZID syrup, which is very much needed for the treatment of children's tuberculosis. The Ukrainian company will implement a technology transfer and will organize production of the drug at one of the Ukrainian pharmaceutical plants in 1999-2000. The value of the agreement is \$474 000 and the Canadian content value is \$453 000.

**The Province of New Brunswick** and the Chernihiv oblast have signed a memorandum of understanding regarding transfer of potato technology. The memorandum outlines an agreement to co-operate in several technology transfer areas such as variety evaluation, production, storage and agricultural extension services.



**Ronsco Inc. of Montreal, Quebec**, has signed an agreement to enter into a joint venture with Dneprovsky Iron and Steel Works to upgrade their plant facility in Dnieprodzerzhinsk. Ronsco is the largest supplier of freight car and locomotive components in Canada. The deal is valued at about \$1.1 million with Canadian content of \$525 000.

**Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership Inc. (STEP) of Regina, Saskatchewan**, has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ukrainian Ministry of Agronomics complex to pursue significant improvements in Ukraine's beef and forage production and practices. The project is valued at \$6 million with \$3.2 million in Canadian content over four years.

**SNC-Lavalin of Montreal, Quebec, and Teron International Building Technologies and Katrides American Trading of Ottawa, Ontario**, have signed a memorandum of understanding and protocol of intent with the L'viv International Airport Authority to implement the modernization and reconstruction of L'viv's airport. The project is valued at \$91.2 million with \$30.4 million of Canadian content.

**SNC-Lavalin of Montreal, Quebec, and Teron International Building Technologies and Katrides American Trading of Ottawa, Ontario**, have signed a protocol of intent with the City of L'viv to implement the modernization and reconstruction of the L'viv City Centre. The project is valued at \$228 million with \$60 million of Canadian content.

**SNC-Lavalin of Montreal, Quebec, and Teron International Building Technologies of Ottawa, Ontario, jointly with Katrides American Trading of Ottawa**, are signing a memorandum of understanding with Velta Insurance and Katrides American Trading of Kyiv to develop two deluxe apartment buildings in the downtown area. The buildings have historic facades that will be restored. The project value is estimated at \$22 million with \$6 million of Canadian content.

\* All three SNC-Lavalin deals listed above are to be budgeted and are subject to the development in financing of the project.

**The Ukraine Enterprise Corporation of Toronto, Ontario**, has signed a memorandum of understanding concerning the expansion of their coal recovery business. The first section relates to increasing their investment in their existing Kalininskaya plant to \$5.3 million to finance capital improvements. This plant commenced production in April 1998 and has 80 employees. The memorandum of understanding also outlines plans to develop and finance as many as 10 further coal recovery projects with a total value of up to \$45 million. The Ukraine Enterprise Corporation is a Canadian company formed to invest in companies in Ukraine.



## **Announceables**

**Canada-Ukraine Business Initiative (CUBI) Chamber** announces that with the support of the Governments of Ukraine and Canada, planning is proceeding on CUBI II, a trade and investment program to be held in Ukraine. Subject to finalizing details on timing, financing and venues, the program will work on attracting Canadian companies to Ukraine and matching them with Ukrainian companies, especially in the growing entrepreneurial sectors. Focus will be on agriculture, construction and energy, with other sectors added depending on bilateral interest.

**Northern Telecom of Mississauga, Ontario**, has a major project in Ukraine to develop a multimedia corporate network for the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU). The Nortel network connects all regional departments of the NBU and satisfies all requirements for voice and data communications between all NBU sites. The network provides secure and high-speed communications and enables NBU to make significant savings on domestic and long-distance telephone traffic. The existing NBU network is the first step in the creation of an advanced multimedia telecommunications network for the Ukrainian banking and finance community.

**Solanum PEI of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island**, and Monsanto Corporation (Ukraine) have announced a new potato technology partnership for Eastern Europe. The partnership combines the leading-edge biotechnology capacity of Monsanto with the potato production systems technology of Prince Edward Island, the second largest seed potato exporter in the world. The partnership is valued at more than \$5 million, which will be invested over the next two years.

# News Release

January 30, 1999

(6:45 p.m. EST)

No. 16

## CANADA JOINS ALLIES IN SUPPORTING NATO FINAL WARNING TO OPPOSING PARTIES IN KOSOVO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and National Defence Minister Art Eggleton today announced that Canada had joined other NATO Allies in issuing a final warning to the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and to the leadership of the Kosovar Albanians. In making the announcement, the Ministers welcomed the January 29 statement by the President of the United Nations Security Council, which supports the peace process for Kosovo and demands the full compliance of the opposing parties.

NATO's decision reinforces the demands of the international community that the parties in Kosovo fully respect the provisions of UN Security Council resolutions 1160, 1199 and 1203.

"NATO is acting to secure a settlement that will prevent a further humanitarian disaster in Kosovo," said Mr. Axworthy. "The parties must recognize the urgency of the situation and face consequences for continued violations of the obligations imposed by the UN Security Council last October."

NATO's strategy, in re-activating its Activation Orders of October 13, 1998, is to halt the violence and support the completion of negotiations on an interim political settlement based on substantial autonomy for Kosovo, thus averting a humanitarian catastrophe. NATO has demanded:

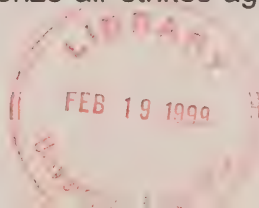
- that the parties accept the summons to begin negotiations at Rambouillet, France, by February 6, 1999, and complete negotiations on an interim political settlement within the specified time frame; and
- that the FRY authorities comply strictly with the terms of the October 25, 1998, agreement between NATO and the FRY, requiring the reduction of excessive security forces in Kosovo and the ending of disproportionate use of force.

If the FRY authorities do not meet these conditions, NATO Secretary-General Solana, in consultation with the Allies, may authorize air strikes against the FRY. Failure by



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du Canada



Canada

the Kosovar Albanians to respect the conditions will result in increased international pressure on them.

Canada has six CF-18 aircraft, in the region, which have been committed to NATO operations. "While we continue to hope for a negotiated settlement, our task force in Italy is fully prepared to take part in NATO air operations if required," said Mr. Eggleton.

The Ministers strongly underlined the FRY government's responsibility for the safety of over 1000 verifiers deployed in Kosovo under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. They also stated that those responsible for the massacres at Racak and Rogovo must be brought to justice, and that the FRY authorities must co-operate fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.

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# News Release

CANADA ON THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL 1999-2000

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/ONU2000UN>

January 30, 1999

(10:00 p.m. EST)

No. 17

## UN SECURITY COUNCIL REACHES AGREEMENT ON CANADIAN PROPOSAL FOR IRAQ

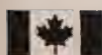
Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy welcomed the fact that the United Nations Security Council today unanimously agreed to a Canadian proposal designed to allow the Council to move forward on the issue of Iraq. The proposal constitutes a procedural bridge enabling the Security Council to receive technical assessments and recommendations on which to base its future substantive deliberations on Iraq.

"The Council members worked very hard over the last few weeks to bridge their differences," said Mr. Axworthy. "Everyone who assisted in the creation of this unified approach should be congratulated. We can now move together to address the important issues of disarmament, the improvement of the humanitarian situation for the Iraqi people, and accounting for the missing prisoners of war (POWs) from the Gulf War."

The Canadian proposal calls for the establishment of three panels to assess key issues concerning Iraq and provide recommendations to the Council. The first would assess the status of Iraq's compliance with the disarmament provisions of UN Security Council resolutions. A second panel would assess the humanitarian situation in Iraq, while a third panel (added to the Canadian proposal at the suggestion of Bahrain) would review the status of Iraq's compliance on the issues of missing POWs and Gulf War compensation.

Brazilian Ambassador Celso Amorim, who gives up the Presidency of the Council to Ambassador Robert Fowler of Canada on February 1, has agreed to chair the three panels on behalf of the Security Council. He has indicated that he will establish the panels and begin work shortly in order to provide recommendations to the Council by April 15, 1999.

"We are pleased that this proposal has brought about a unified UN Security Council approach to next steps on Iraq and we look forward to working with Ambassador Amorim during our term as President of the Council," said Mr. Axworthy.



Approval of the Canadian proposal marks the Council's first official action on Iraq since late December. Until today, the Council has been unable to reach agreement on next steps following the December 16-19 air strikes on Iraq.

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# News Release

CANADA ON THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL 1999-2000

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/ONU2000UN>

February 2, 1999

(6:45 p.m. EST)

No. 18

## CANADA TAKES OVER PRESIDENCY OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today outlined the agenda facing the United Nations Security Council as Canada assumes the presidency for the month of February.

"As President of the Council, we will continue to work with our colleagues to find solutions to the many security crises that face the international community, including those in Kosovo and Sierra Leone," said Mr. Axworthy. "With our first presidency falling so early, we hope to set the tone for Canada's full Council term, and to take every opportunity to advance our human security agenda."

Noting that the Council's heavy agenda is subject to changing and emerging world events, the Minister highlighted some of the upcoming business that the Council will face during Canada's presidency.

This agenda includes four peacekeeping-mission mandate renewals: MINURSO (United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara); UNPREDEP (United Nations Preventive Deployment Force in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia); MINURCA (Peacekeeping Mission in the Central African Republic); and MONUA (United Nations Observer Mission in Angola).

Other scheduled items include a report to the Council by the Angola Sanctions Committee, which Canada chairs, on the status and effectiveness of telecommunications sanctions, as well as a 90-day review of sanctions against Libya. The Council will also receive a series of periodic reports from the UN Secretary-General on issues under the Council's watch, and will continue to deal with a host of global trouble spots, including Iraq, Kosovo, Ethiopia-Eritrea, Sierra Leone and Haiti.

Canada will sponsor an open Council briefing on February 12 on the issue of protecting civilians in armed conflict. This is part of Canada's effort to engage the Council on human security issues that might not normally arise in the course of regular deliberations on specific regional security problems.





The presidency, or chairmanship, of the Council rotates monthly, in English alphabetical order, among the 15 Council members. This is the first of two presidencies that Canada will serve during its two-year term on the Council.

- 30 -

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# News Release

February 5, 1999

(9:00 a.m. EST)

No. 19

## RUSSIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TO VISIT CANADA

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced that Russian Deputy Prime Minister Gennady Kulik will visit Canada from February 8 to 12. Mr. Kulik will visit Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto accompanied by a delegation of Russian officials and businesspeople.

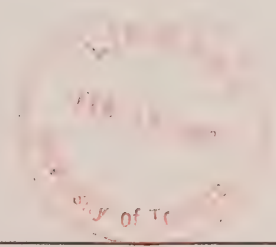
"I am pleased that Mr. Kulik is visiting Canada to discuss the status of our bilateral relations, including trade and investment links," said Minister Marchi. "Our meetings will focus on our trade and economic relations, and will prepare for the next Canada Russia Intergovernmental Economic Commission (IEC) session."

Mr. Kulik and Mr. Marchi are co-chairs of the IEC, an industry-led bilateral mechanism that fosters trade and economic relations, investment and technology transfer between Canada and Russia. The Commission also works to resolve irritants that impede business between the two countries. The ministers will begin preparations for the fourth session of the IEC, expected to take place in Russia in spring 1999.

While in Ottawa, Mr. Kulik will also meet with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Agriculture Minister Lyle Vancilief. In addition, Mr. Kulik and the delegation will hold consultations with senior officials of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Export Development Corporation and the National Research Council.

The Russian delegation will meet with executives of several Canadian companies in Ottawa and Montreal, and will participate in business events organized by the Alliance of Manufacturers and Exporters in Ottawa, and by the Canada-Russia Business Forum in Toronto. In Montreal, Mr. Kulik will attend two events hosted by the Government of Quebec. In Toronto, he will meet the Canadian members of the Agri-Food Sub-Committee of the IEC.

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A backgrounder is attached.

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## **Background**

### **CANADA-RUSSIA RELATIONS**

Since the creation of the Russian Federation in 1991, Canada has witnessed a surge in Canada-Russia co-operation and exchange at all levels: intergovernmental, parliamentary, cultural, academic and especially private sector. Our political relations have been strengthened through bilateral and regular working-level talks on United Nations affairs, G-8 issues, European security, economic issues, Arctic and northern co-operation, and other bilateral topics.

A busy agenda of high-level visits has included Russian Prime Minister Yevgeniy Primakov's visit to Canada as foreign minister in 1997 and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's official visit to Moscow and St. Petersburg in October 1997. Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Natural Resources Minister Ralph Goodale, and Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Jane Stewart visited Russia last year.

Canada has actively promoted the development of regional contacts between Canada and Russia. A Quebec government minister led a trade delegation to Russia last May, and a number of Russian regional leaders have visited Canada recently. Quebec has launched partnerships with Samara and Tatarstan; Alberta and the Northwest Territories with Sakha; British Columbia with Primorskiy in the Russian Far East; and Manitoba with Stavropol.

On the economic front, Canadian exports to Russia increased from \$333 million in 1996 to \$376 million in 1997. Bilateral trade in 1997 approached \$1 billion. In 1998, exports had increased by 13 percent up to July, but dropped sharply following the August financial crisis. Canadian direct investment in Russia is estimated at \$1.2 billion, primarily in the mining and oil and gas sectors.

Commercial links between Canada and Russia have strengthened considerably with the creation in 1995 of the Canada Russia Intergovernmental Economic Commission (IEC). The IEC promotes economic co-operation and trade between Canadian and Russian companies, and is Canada's principal forum for discussion among businesspeople and officials to facilitate business links. It also works to resolve trade irritants. The fourth plenary of the IEC is scheduled to be held in Moscow later this year.

The IEC is chaired by International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Gennady Kulik, who will visit Canada for the first time from February 8 to 12. During Mr. Kulik's visit, an agenda for the fourth IEC will be prepared. Canada's primary objectives for the Commission are to identify the concerns of the Canadian business community and bring these forward to the Russian government; to agree on means to address these concerns; and to identify areas where industry or government can co-operate to enhance the Canadian presence in Russia.

Canada and Russia are leaders in the circumpolar region and now have a wide-ranging Arctic agenda, including joint initiatives on environmental monitoring, self-government, transportation, Aboriginal business, electrical utilities, and oil and gas. A Canada-Russia Working Group on the Arctic and the North, chaired by Foreign Affairs Minister Axworthy and a Russian minister, is expanding these activities to include new business and regional initiatives. Geographic and geological similarities make Canada and Russia obvious partners in cold-weather construction, northern drilling and oil and gas transmission, and the mining sector.

There is now a premium on ensuring Canadian technical co-operation with Russia. Since 1991, some \$150 million has been committed to current Russian needs. Canada has contributed \$1.5 million to the Red Cross appeal to provide food and medicine to vulnerable regions in Russia this winter; \$500 000 to assist Red Cross efforts in Sakha (Siberia); and a \$325 000 humanitarian package to Chukotka in the Russian northeast. Canada is examining further options for northern relief.

Canada and Russia work closely together in the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the NATO-sponsored Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the new NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council. Canada has encouraged Russia's integration into multilateral and regional institutions, welcoming Russia as a new member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in 1998. In addition, Canada has provided technical support for Russian accession to the World Trade Organization and strong backing for Russia's role in the G-8 summit process.

# News Release

February 5, 1999

(12:15 p.m. EST)

No. 20

## APPOINTMENTS TO IDRC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointments of Tom McKay and Francisco Sagasti and the reappointments of Dr. Ivy Matsepe-Casaburri and Dr. Vulimiri Ramalingaswami to the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

IDRC is a public corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 to help developing-country scientists and communities find solutions to social, economic and environmental problems through research. By bringing together people, institutions and ideas, IDRC seeks to ensure that the benefits of this research will be shared equitably among all its partners in both the northern and the southern hemispheres.

IDRC is directed by a 21-member Board of Governors comprising 11 Canadian members and 10 non-Canadian members.

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Biographical notes on the appointees are attached.

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## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

**Tom McKay** became a Certified Management Accountant in 1971 (Canadian Silver Medalist) and received his Associated Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Designation (AMCT) in 1973. He has attended Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and the School of Municipal Management at Queen's University. He was the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Kitchener, Ontario, from 1987 to 1996 and is currently a management consultant. Mr. McKay has worked internationally on management projects in Tianjin, China, as a sub-consultant to Reid Crowther, Calgary; in Namibia, on behalf of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities; and in Uganda, on behalf of the Institute of Public Administrators of Canada.

**Francisco Sagasti**, a Peruvian, is currently the President of *FORO Nacional/Internacional*, an institution that aims at promoting dialogue, debate and consensus on critical development issues. He is also director of *FORO's Agenda: Peru* program of studies on development strategies. Previously he was senior researcher and program director at the *Grupo de Análisis para el Desarrollo (GRADE)*, a Peruvian policy-oriented research institution. He was Chief of Strategic Planning at the World Bank from 1987 to 1990 and was Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development from 1988 to 1989. Dr. Sagasti was also advisor to the Peruvian Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Planning. He has been on numerous boards and committees including member of the Rector's Advisory Committee of the United Nations University, member of the UNESCO science policy advisory committee and member of the Board of the Peruvian National Council for Science and Technology. Dr. Sagasti obtained his PhD at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1980, he received the United Nations Peace Medal and the Paul Hoffman Award of the Society for International Development for his "outstanding contributions to national and international development." He has published numerous papers and books on science and technology policy, systems analysis, management sciences, futures research and development strategies.

**Dr. Ivy Matsepe-Casaburri**, researcher, writer, educator and gender and development specialist, holds a doctorate in Sociology. She currently serves as Premier of the Free State Province, South Africa. She is the founding member of the Board of Women's Development Foundation; Patron of the Maokeng Community Development Trust in the Free State; Patron of Escom/Sowetan Woman of the Year Award; and Patron of Shoprite Checkers/SABC Woman of the Year Award. She is the former Chair of the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC); the former Chair of the Board of SENTEC Limited (Signal Distribution Company, the national carrier); and a former Board member of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

**Dr. Vulimiri Ramalingaswami** is an Oxford-educated medical pathologist with extensive experience as a medical researcher and educator. He has been a professor of pathology and is the former Director of both the All India Institute of Medical

Sciences and the Indian Council of Medical Research. He has also served as Chair of the International Task Force on Health Research for Development in Geneva (1990-93). Dr. Ramalingaswami was Secretary-General of the International Conference on Nutrition, in Rome in December 1992, which was held under the auspices of the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. He is presently National Research Professor and Professor Emeritus at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences; and President of the National Institute of Immunology.



Netus Release

February 5, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EST)

No. 21

## CANADA ANNOUNCES FIRST PROJECTS FUNDED UNDER CULTURAL INITIATIVES FOR WAR-AFFECTED CHILDREN PROGRAM

Senator Landon Pearson, on behalf of Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, today announced the first 14 projects selected for funding under the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's (DFAIT) Cultural Initiatives for War-Affected Children program.

Senator Pearson, Minister Axworthy's special adviser on children's rights, made the announcement at the opening of the exhibition — *Children of the Wind* — which is part of one of the 14 projects, an art therapy project called "Mapping Our World." The projects range from art therapy, to sharing stories and experiences among Indigenous peoples in the Americas, to an intriguing floor game about landmines that can be used by the new Youth Mine Action Ambassadors.

The exhibition, at the McCord Museum in Montreal, presents images and stories by children from across Canada and from other countries, including Bosnia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Nicaragua, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Uganda about how they see themselves, how war affects their lives, and their hopes for their future. DFAIT's funding will allow work to continue on the art therapy project and will help bring the plight of war-affected children to the attention of Canadians, including through more exhibitions like *Children of the Wind*.

"The moving stories in this exhibition testify to how war harms children — body, mind and spirit. At the same time, they also show the children's resilience and their hope to build a better, more peaceful future," said Senator Pearson. "The organizers of this and other such projects are Canada's cultural peacebuilders around the world."

The Cultural Initiatives for War-Affected Children fund was announced last summer by Minister Axworthy. The aim of the fund is to raise awareness about children in armed conflict by promoting cultural activities at the international level.



Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1998 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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A list of approved projects is attached.

DFAIT is encouraging Canada's arts and cultural community to submit new applications. The deadlines are May 14 for projects taking place in summer or fall 1999, and October 15 for projects taking place in winter 1999-2000. Potential applicants are invited to call (613) 996-3649 or to consult the DFAIT Internet site (<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/culture/children/menu-e.htm>) for descriptions of the selected projects, the program and the project selection criteria.

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# CULTURAL INITIATIVES FOR WAR-AFFECTED CHILDREN

## APPROVED PROJECTS

NAME/ORGANIZATION	\$ AMOUNT	OBJECTIVE/MEDIUM
1. War Orphans/ Felix Atencio-Gonzales	10 950	Awareness and therapy/ Radio, print media
2. Art Therapy/Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture	15 000	Awareness and therapy, art therapy/Workshops
3. Réseau de sensibilisation/ Comité de Solidarité de Trois- Rivières	20 000	Awareness/Internet
4. Mapping Our World/ Cultural Connections	20 000	Awareness and art therapy/Exhibits
5. After the War/ Frameline Productions	19 795	Awareness/Film for TV
6. Children's Solutions/The International Children's Institute	16 000	Awareness and therapy/Internet
7. More than Bandages/ Lowry Productions	20 000	Awareness and therapy/ Print media, film
8. Simulation Floor Games/Mines Action Canada	9 170	Awareness/Visual art
9. Rhythm of the Street/ Reelworld Productions	10 000	Awareness and therapy/ Promotional tour
10. Roots and Wings/ Subtonic Monks	20 000	Awareness and therapy/ Performing arts
11. Dawn to Dusk/ Vision/TV	20 000	Awareness and therapy/ Film for TV



12. Rainbow Revolution/ MicroChronicle	20 000	Awareness and therapy/ Internet
13. Circus Ethiopia Harbourfront/Vancouver International Children's Festival	10 000	Awareness/Performing arts
14. Drawing Out Our Memories/Cultural Connections	12 750	Therapy/Visual art
<b>TOTAL \$</b>	<b>223 665</b>	



International Trade

Commerce international

# News Release

February 8, 1999

(12:30 p.m. EST)

No. 22

## MARCHI LAUNCHES PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ON FTAA AND WTO NEGOTIATIONS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi announced today that the Government of Canada is seeking to hear Canadians' interests and priorities in negotiations now under way at the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and in the anticipated negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

"We enter into trade agreements to better the lives of our citizens. In preparing for these negotiations, it is vitally important that we closely consult all Canadians," said Minister Marchi. "This is also a step in Canada's continuing efforts to make trade frameworks, such as the WTO, the NAFTA and the FTAA, more open and transparent."

In November, Minister Marchi will welcome his counterparts in the hemisphere for the next meeting of FTAA trade ministers in Toronto. In late November, the world's trade representatives will meet in Seattle, where they are expected to launch new negotiations under the WTO.

Canadians are asked to present their comments and submissions by April 30, 1999, as outlined in the February 6 notice published in the *Canada Gazette* Part I (see attached). Views are welcome both on trade issues (trade in goods and services, investment and competition policy, intellectual property, culture, information technology) and the social dimension of trade (environment, labour, development).

The Minister's call for submissions coincides with a hemisphere-wide effort to seek input from civil society. An FTAA committee has issued an open invitation to citizens to make written submissions by March 31, 1999.

The call for public input also complements other consultations that the government and Parliament are holding to ensure that Canadians have input into Canada's overall trade agenda. The Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade will soon hold hearings on Canada's interests in the upcoming negotiations. The Standing Committee on Agriculture has already held hearings. Further activities are also planned to ensure that citizens are fully consulted as negotiations for the FTAA and under the WTO evolve.



Additional information about Canada's trade negotiations will be posted on the Department's Internet site (<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>) on an ongoing basis.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Office of the Minister for International Trade  
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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

The *Canada Gazette* notice of February 6 is also available at the following Internet site: <http://canada.gc.ca/gazette/main.html>



## **Backgrounder**

### **CONSULTATIONS FOR TRADE NEGOTIATIONS**

The Government of Canada is seeking the opinions of Canadians on the scope, content and process for negotiations to establish the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and for the expected negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO). The Government believes that ongoing, broad-based consultations with the provinces, the business sector, and the public at large are essential for Canada to identify its negotiating positions and objectives.

Canada is an established trading nation, with one in three jobs linked directly to trade, and exports valued at 40 percent of our GDP. Our experience shows that trade and investment liberalization creates jobs, increases economic growth, and promotes Canadian technology.

Canada benefits from predictable and clear international trading rules. These rules serve to promote a stable environment for trade and investment, and provide greater consumer choice and value, while still maintaining the Government's ability to regulate in the public interest in such areas as culture, health care, education, social programs, the environment, labour standards, programs for Aboriginal peoples, programs for minorities and programs for the management of natural resources.

The Government seeks Canadians' opinions about the scope, coverage and approaches to the following issues for both the WTO and FTAA negotiations. Additional information will be posted on an ongoing basis through the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade website at [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca).

#### **The WTO Process**

The second WTO Ministerial Conference held in May 1998 called for detailed recommendations to be considered at the third Ministerial Conference, scheduled for November 30 to December 3, 1999, in the United States. The directions provided by the Ministers at this Conference will form the basis for new multilateral trade negotiations.

The 134 members of the WTO are working on a three-phase process to prepare for the Conference: issue identification (until March 1999); developing proposals for the Ministers (spring/summer 1999); and finalizing recommendations (fall 1999). These recommendations will cover the full range of issues, including the implementation of existing agreements; ongoing work programs; mandated negotiations on agriculture and services; and the overall scope and process of new negotiations.

#### **The FTAA Process**

The free trade negotiations were launched in April 1998 by the leaders of 34 countries in the Americas with a target date of 2005 to conclude negotiations on a

Free Trade Area of the Americas. Canada will play a key role in these negotiations as host for the ministerial meeting in November 1999 and as Chair of the 18-month start-up phase of negotiations.

Nine FTAA Negotiating Groups have been established to deal with:

- market access; including tariffs, rules of origin, customs and technical and standards barriers;
- agriculture; including market access, sanitary and other agricultural trade rules;
- services;
- investment;
- government procurement;
- subsidies, antidumping and countervailing duties;
- competition policy;
- intellectual property rights; and
- dispute settlement.

As well, three groups have been formed to examine broader issues of smaller economies, electronic commerce and the participation of civil society. The FTAA Civil Society Committee, a Canadian initiative, invited written submissions from across the hemisphere, by March 31, 1999. The Committee will consider the submissions and report to Ministers in November. A Trade Negotiations Committee reporting to the Ministers oversees the work of these groups and manages the negotiating process.

## **TRADE IN GOODS**

### **Market Access Issues**

The Canadian government is seeking views on customs duties and Canada's participation in future FTAA negotiations and WTO negotiations on industrial product tariffs, including fisheries products.

The Government would like feedback and information from interested parties on areas of export interest, including products for which countries should reduce or eliminate tariffs or remove other barriers. The Government is also seeking views on products for which there may be concerns if Canada were to improve access for foreign products to the Canadian market.

### **Agriculture**

The WTO Agreement on Agriculture contains provisions for further negotiations on products covered by the Agreement and identifies issues for consideration, including market access, domestic support and export subsidies. Negotiations on agriculture are also taking place within the FTAA. The Government is looking for opinions on Canadian priorities for negotiations in these areas. Interested parties can also send opinions directly to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada by e-mail through Suzanne



Vinet, Executive Director, International Trade Policy Directorate, at [vinets@em.agr.ca](mailto:vinets@em.agr.ca) or by fax at (613) 759-7503.

### **Existing WTO Agreements**

The Government also wants Canadian viewpoints on the issues that were addressed during the Uruguay Round, namely: The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 Articles; Textiles and Clothing; Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures; Technical Barriers to Trade; Rules of Origin; Customs Valuation; Preshipment Inspection; Import Licensing; Antidumping Practices; Subsidies and Countervailing Measures; and Safeguards.

The Government would also like to have opinions on the WTO Rules Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the Trade Policy Review Mechanism, the Agreement on Government Procurement, and the work programs on trade facilitation and the openness of government procurement.

It is important to hear about situations or experiences in which these agreements have or have not been successful in addressing Canadian interests. The Government is particularly interested in knowing in which areas improved rules and commitments would be beneficial, and the potential applicability of these WTO agreements to hemispheric negotiations within the FTAA.

### **TRADE IN SERVICES**

Negotiations on trade in services are expected in both the WTO and the FTAA. Trade in services is important for the Canadian economy because service transactions account for approximately two-thirds of Canada's GDP, and service exports amounted to over \$41 billion in 1997. These negotiations will provide opportunities for Canada to pursue increased access to foreign markets for Canadian service firms.

The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) of the WTO already provides a comprehensive framework of rules and disciplines for trade in services. The upcoming negotiations at the WTO, which are scheduled to begin by the year 2000, will try to achieve further liberalization by broadening commitments made by member countries. The FTAA chapter on trade in services will likely be comparable to the WTO's GATS and Chapter Twelve of the NAFTA. Negotiations in each forum will include most services. These include, among others, financial, telecommunications, business and professional, transportation, environmental and tourism services.

The Government would like to hear from Canadians regarding those service sectors in other countries that should be a target for further liberalization, and opinions on barriers to access, including regulatory barriers, that restrict trade in services. The Government also seeks views on existing Canadian policies in the area of trade in services that may be raised in future negotiations.



## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, CULTURE, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### Intellectual Property

Intellectual property rights are a vital component of creative and innovative activity in a modern economy. The WTO has an extensive agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property (TRIPS), which includes most aspects of intellectual property rights. The FTAA negotiations will be examining the need for hemispheric intellectual property rules. Canada believes that there is a need to ensure that the rules keep pace with technological changes in areas such as electronic commerce and biotechnology, while respecting national interests. Canada supports work to explore the needs and interests of holders of traditional and Indigenous knowledge, and the Government seeks the views of the Canadian public.

### Cultural Issues

The preservation and promotion of cultural identity is a core objective for Canada in any international trade negotiation. During previous trade negotiations, Canada has pursued this goal by negotiating cultural exemptions, or by not assuming obligations regarding cultural industries. The Government is seeking opinions on how Canada should continue to achieve our cultural policy and trade policy objectives in a manner that maximizes opportunities and reduces uncertainties.

### Electronic Commerce

In keeping with the goal of becoming one of the most connected nations in the world, Canada has played a leadership role in international efforts to facilitate global electronic commerce. Both the WTO and the FTAA have launched work programs to examine trade-related aspects of electronic commerce. In the case of the WTO, the key issue is how well current trade agreements cover issues related to the use of electronic commerce. In the case of the FTAA, the key issue is how to deal with electronic commerce in the context of hemispheric negotiations — should it be included as part of existing sectoral negotiations or should it be dealt with in some other way? The Government is seeking the views of the Canadian public on this emerging subject.

## INVESTMENT AND COMPETITION POLICY

### Investment Policy

International investment has increased dramatically over the last few decades, and now plays a central role in the world trading system. Since 1996, Canada's total direct investment abroad has exceeded foreign direct investment into Canada. By investing abroad, Canadian companies acquire new markets and strengthen their operations through the acquisition of new technologies, resources and skills. Foreign investment in Canada creates jobs and growth; each \$1 billion in foreign direct

investment is estimated to create as many as 45 000 jobs in Canada over a five-year period.

Canada has participated in the WTO Working Group on Trade and Investment (WGTI) since 1996, and while an effective framework of rules for trade in goods and services has been established, no comprehensive framework exists for investment. Canada is also working with the 34 member countries of the FTAA with the goal of creating a rules-based framework on investment.

The Government is seeking opinions on multilateral and regional investment rules that would provide better access, treatment, protection and predictability for Canadian investors abroad and foreign investors in Canada. The Government is also seeking information on the country-specific barriers and problems that Canadians are experiencing when investing internationally, and on any other aspects of investment policy at home or abroad that require special attention.

### **Trade and Competition**

Sound competition laws, consistently enforced, can promote greater certainty for Canadian firms in foreign markets. Canada, through the Competition Act, has in place a well-developed domestic framework of competition law. An agreement within the WTO and/or the FTAA on competition policy, based on similar principles, would provide a solid basis for multilateral co-operation on competition issues. Among the issues to be discussed, and on which public views are sought, are fundamental principles such as transparency and non-discrimination; approaches to address private anti-competitive practices; and domestic enforcement and co-operation among competition authorities. The work undertaken to date by the WTO Working Group on the Interaction between Trade and Competition Policy, the FTAA Negotiating Group on Competition Policy, and the substantial research program undertaken by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) provide a strong basis for developing agreements within the WTO and the FTAA. WTO work also includes a consideration of the impact of state trading enterprises on trade.

### **SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF TRADE (ENVIRONMENT, LABOUR AND DEVELOPMENT)**

In recent years, public interest in trade negotiations has grown, together with a desire to see that the social dimensions of trade are taken into account. As Canada prepares to identify its objectives and priorities for future trade negotiations, the Government is seeking views on ways to reflect the interests and values of Canadians in the areas of the protection of the environment, promotion of respect for basic workers' rights, human rights and other social concerns.

The Canadian government is also interested in finding ways to advance participation in the global economy by least-developed countries and smaller countries —



particularly those vulnerable to marginalization. This could include special or specific measures or steps to facilitate implementation of existing or future commitments in connection with WTO or FTAA agreements.

## **SUBMISSIONS BY INTERESTED PARTIES**

All interested parties are invited to submit their views at the earliest opportunity and, at the latest, submissions should be received before April 30, 1999. They should:

- 1) include the contributor's name and address;
- 2) identify the sector and products or services being addressed and, where appropriate, the tariff item number; and
- 3) provide precise information on the reasons for positions taken, including effects on employment and production in Canada, effects on import and export interests, and impacts on any other social or economic interests in Canada.

Contributions can be sent by e-mail, fax or mail:

E-mail: [consultations@dfait-maeci.gc.ca](mailto:consultations@dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

Fax: (613) 944-0757

Address: Trade Negotiations Consultations  
Trade Policy Planning Division (EAI)  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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K1A 0G2



CA1  
LA  
CS5

# News Release

February 10, 1999

(1:50 p.m. EST)

No. 23

## STRATEGY LAUNCHED TO PROHIBIT THE BULK REMOVAL OF CANADIAN WATER, INCLUDING WATER FOR EXPORT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Environment Minister Christine Stewart today announced a strategy to prohibit the bulk removal of water — including water for export — from Canadian watersheds.

The strategy responds to Canadian concerns about the security of Canada's freshwater resources and is consistent with the motion on water security adopted by the House of Commons on Tuesday, February 9, 1999.

The new strategy includes:

- Amendments to the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act (IBWTA) to give the federal government regulatory power to prohibit bulk removals from boundary waters, principally the Great Lakes.
- A joint reference — with the United States — to the International Joint Commission (IJC) to study the effects of water consumption, diversion and removal, including for export from boundary waters. The IJC will make recommendations to Canada and the United States on the management and protection of our shared waters.
- A proposal to develop, in co-operation with the provinces and territories, a Canada-wide accord on bulk water removals to protect Canadian watersheds. The ministers called on those provinces and territories that have not already done so to adopt moratoriums on bulk water removal while the accord is being developed.

British Columbia and Alberta have legislation that prohibits the removal of water, including for export. Ontario is finalizing regulations to accomplish the same goal. Other provinces are moving forward with similar policies.

"A comprehensive, long-term approach can be developed that protects our water resources and respects federal/provincial/territorial jurisdictions," said Minister Axworthy. "Today's

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federal measures set in train an approach to ensure the security of Canada's water over the long term."

This strategy reaffirms the Government's long-standing position opposing bulk water removal. It is also consistent with the statement by the three NAFTA countries in 1993 that "unless water in any form has entered into commerce and become a good or product, it is not covered by the provisions of any trade agreement, including the NAFTA."

"Canadians value their freshwater resources and want their governments to take action to protect them," said Minister Stewart. "That's why I have invited the provinces and territories to work with the federal government for the Canada-wide accord to prevent bulk water removal from our watersheds."

The availability of clean, fresh water is vital to ecosystems, human health, agriculture and industry. Bulk water removals can have serious environmental consequences. As well, climate change has the potential to significantly alter both the supply and distribution of freshwater in Canada, and therefore a precautionary approach is important in achieving a common solution.

Canada will continue to work through international institutions, such as the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Environment Program, to promote sustainable use of freshwater. The federal government will seek opportunities to share Canadian expertise in water technology and services, particularly with countries facing water challenges.

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Backgrounders are attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Mark Colpitts  
Environment Canada  
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Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874

This document is also available on the following Web sites:

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/press>



## **Backgrounder**

### **WATER FACTS**

Canada's watersheds contain about 9 percent of the world's renewable water resources and 20 percent of the world's total freshwater resources, including waters captured in glaciers and the polar icecaps.

Water is vital to ecosystems, human health, agriculture and industry. Bulk water removals may have cumulative effects on watersheds. Inter-basin transfers result in the introduction of non-native micro-organisms and exotic species, and the alteration of natural ecosystems and changes in water flows and tables. Climate change implications have heightened concerns about water removals.

The federal approach to dealing with bulk water removals is an important part of the broader Federal Freshwater Strategy now being developed in consultation with all provinces and territories. The Freshwater Strategy will address the full range of water issues in Canada.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

**Bulk water removal:** the removal of water by man-made diversions (e.g., canals), tanker ships or trucks, and pipelines. Such removals have the potential, directly or cumulatively, to harm the health of a watershed. Small-scale removal, such as bottled water, is not considered bulk.

**Watershed:** a land area draining into a common watercourse. Often called a catchment area, drainage basin or river basin. Examples of watersheds in Canada include Atlantic (including the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River), Hudson Bay, Pacific and Arctic. A single watershed can cover a relatively large section of the Canadian landscape. For example, the Great Lakes waters are not restricted to the lakes themselves but include the many rivers and their tributaries that ultimately flow into the lakes.

**Boundary waters:** shared waters with the Canada-U.S. border running through them. The principal boundary waters are the Great Lakes.

#### **THE WATERSHED APPROACH**

A watershed approach is environmentally sound and respects provincial and territorial authorities in water management. The watershed is the fundamental ecological unit in protecting and conserving water resources. Provinces, territories and the federal government are adopting a watershed approach as a key principle in water policy and legislation. The watershed approach recognizes the linkages of water systems and the need to manage water within drainage basins rather than on a river-by-river or lake-by-lake basis.





## **Background**

### **A STRATEGY TO PROTECT CANADIAN WATER**

The federal government's bulk water strategy is both environmentally sound and consistent with Canada's international trade obligations. It builds on sound water management principles and the need to protect the integrity of Canada's watersheds.

The strategy recognizes that provinces have the primary responsibility for water management and that the Government of Canada has responsibilities under the Boundary Waters Treaty. Actions by territorial governments will also be important as they assume greater responsibility over water resource management. Joint participation is essential to develop and implement a permanent Canada-wide solution to bulk water removal.

The strategy respects Canada's trade obligations because it focusses on water in its natural state (e.g., in rivers or lakes). Water in its natural state is not a good or product, and is not subject to international trade agreements. Nothing in the North American Free Trade Agreement or in the World Trade Organization agreements obliges Canada to exploit its water for commercial use or to begin exporting water in any form.

#### **KEY ELEMENTS OF THE FEDERAL STRATEGY**

- **Amendments to the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act**

The Boundary Waters Treaty (1909) provides mechanisms to help prevent and resolve disputes, primarily concerning water quantity and quality along the Canada-U.S. boundary. The International Joint Commission was established under the Treaty. Parliament passed the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act (IBWTA) to implement the Treaty.

The federal government is acting within its jurisdiction by introducing IBWTA amendments in Parliament.

The amendments will give the Minister of Foreign Affairs authority over projects potentially affecting levels and flows of boundary waters (specifically, in the Great Lakes). Through this amendment, a regulation could be developed to prevent the bulk removal of water from boundary waters on the basis of a single or cumulative impacts.

The amendments will be consistent with the principles of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment's Harmonization Accord, and will be developed in close consultation with all affected provinces and territories sharing waters with the United States. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade will lead these consultations.

- **Reference to the International Joint Commission**

A consistent Canada-U.S. approach to the issue is an important element in protecting our shared waters over the long term. Canada and the United States have agreed on a reference to the International Joint Commission (IJC); this will build on the IJC's 1985 study regarding consumptive uses and diversions within the Great Lakes, and will include an examination of potential impacts of water export.

Work on the first phase of this reference will commence immediately. Public hearings will begin in March. The IJC will consult with interested provinces and territories in its work.

- **Canada-wide accord on bulk water removals**

The Canada-wide accord on bulk water removals will represent a commitment by all jurisdictions to act through legislation, regulation or policy. In the case of jurisdictions with measures already in place, the accord will re-affirm their commitment. The federal, provincial and territorial governments will jointly develop the accord.

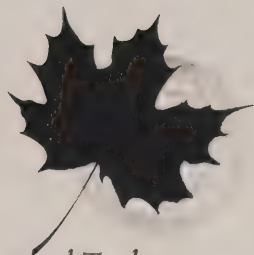
As an interim measure, the federal government is urging provinces and territories to institute a moratorium preventing bulk removals from watersheds, including for the purpose of export, until such time as the accord is in place. Several provinces already have moratoriums in effect to prohibit bulk water removals.

## **SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL WATER MANAGEMENT**

Freshwater issues are becoming more prominent, and Canada continues to play a key role in promoting local solutions to pressing water problems.

Through the Canadian International Development Agency, since 1987 Canada has contributed \$76 million annually to projects in infrastructure, irrigation, sanitation, pollution control and other water-related projects. The federal government will continue to promote Canadian expertise and technology abroad, and to support international institutions such as the United Nations Environment Program and the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development in order to promote solutions reducing global demand for freshwater. Exporting Canada's water is neither an economically viable nor an environmentally sustainable means of dealing with water scarcity.





International Trade  
Commerce international

# News Release

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

February 10, 1999

(3:00 p.m. EST)

No. 24

## MARCHI ANNOUNCES FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR AGRI-FOOD PRODUCTS TO RUSSIA

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced the establishment of a revolving short-term insurance facility to support up to \$60 million in exports of Canadian agri-food products to Russia over three years.

"This facility will allow Canadian exporters, traditionally selling to the Russian market, to maintain their commercial relationship with Russian buyers during this period of economic difficulty," said Mr. Marchi. "Canada remains committed to Russia and to its efforts to create a more stable and transparent business environment."

The facility, established under the Export Development Corporation (EDC) Canada Account, provides coverage to Canadian financial institutions to support the export of Canadian agri-food products to Russia. The Canada Account is used to support export transactions that are in the national interest and cannot be supported by the Corporate Account for reasons such as size or country-risk exposure. The terms and conditions of this facility are on a commercial basis.

"Over the long-term, Russia is an important market for Canadian agri-food exports, and this insurance facility is designed to ensure Canadian exporters maintain a presence in the market," added Mr. Marchi.

Canadian agri-food export sales to Russia in 1997 were over \$125 million.

The announcement was made during the visit to Ottawa of Russian Deputy Prime Minister Gennady Kulik. Mr. Kulik's next stops are in Montreal and Toronto.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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# News Release

February 10, 1999

(5:25 p.m. EST)

No. 25

## NATO SECRETARY-GENERAL TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and National Defence Minister Art Eggleton announced today that North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary-General Javier Solana will visit Ottawa and Toronto February 11 to 12.

In Ottawa, Mr. Solana will meet Prime Minister Chrétien as well as Ministers Axworthy and Eggleton. Discussions will include NATO's ongoing commitment to the current Kosovo peace process, the preparations for the Washington Summit, NATO's 50th anniversary, the review of the 1991 Strategic Concept and NATO enlargement.

"Canada strongly supports the decisive role NATO is playing in Kosovo, to achieve an end to the current conflict," said Mr. Axworthy. "NATO's readiness to become involved in Kosovo is sending a signal to both parties in the conflict that they must comply with the agreement signed in October."

"We are pleased to have this opportunity to consult with Mr. Solana about the situation in Kosovo," said Mr. Eggleton. "We have more than 1300 Canadian Forces members in the Balkans, in NATO's Stabilization Force in Bosnia, in the Air Task Group in Italy, as well as in the Kosovo Verification Mission and the NATO Extraction Force in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia."

On the morning of February 12, Mr. Solana will address the National Press Club on "Preparing the Washington Summit." While in Toronto in the afternoon, he will speak at a luncheon jointly hosted by the Atlantic Council of Canada and the Empire Club of Canada.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



# News Release



CANADA ON THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL 1999 - 2000

<http://www.dfa-it-ma.ec.gc.ca/ONU2000UN>

February 10, 1999

No. 26

## UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER IMPACT OF CONFLICT ON CIVILIANS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will preside over the United Nations Security Council in New York on Friday, February 12, 1999, during a Canadian-initiated open briefing on Protecting Civilians in Armed Conflict.

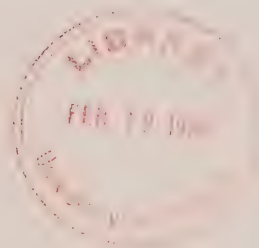
"The protection of civilians in armed conflict is central to our human security agenda," said Mr. Axworthy. "In so many of the world's conflict zones, such as Kosovo and Sierra Leone, we have seen the tragedy of innocent civilians, including women and children, used as human shields, killed or brutally maimed. We must find ways for the international community to take a more vigorous role in protecting these individuals."

It has become the practice in recent years for Security Council members, during their presidencies, to propose that the Council examine a broad range of peace and security issues. Canada, which holds the Security Council presidency this month, is focussing the Council's attention on the impact of armed conflict on civilians, as well as on ways to enhance their protection. Canada sees this briefing as an opportunity to build on previous Council debates on specific aspects of human security (e.g., landmines, child soldiers and humanitarian workers), and as part of the Council's longer-term need to deal with new challenges to international peace and security.

The Council will be briefed by President of the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) Cornelio Sommaruga, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Carol Bellamy, and the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Olara Otunnu.

While in New York, Mr. Axworthy will also speak at a conference on the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict at Columbia University. The conference, jointly sponsored by Columbia and the Canadian Consulate General in New York, will explore practical strategies for professionals in the field.

- 30 -



Canada

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

February 12, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EST)

No. 27

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES INITIATIVES AIMED AT PROTECTING CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT

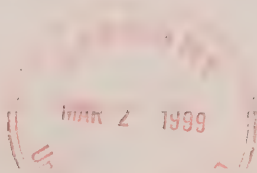
Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced several new initiatives aimed at protecting the rights of children in situations of armed conflict. The Minister provided details in a speech he delivered to a Columbia University Conference on the protection of children in armed conflict. While in New York, he also presided over a United Nations Security Council briefing on the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

"The welfare of the world's children merits special priority in Canada's human security agenda," said Mr. Axworthy. "It is the most vulnerable — but especially children — whose security is most at risk, who pay the highest price, and who, consequently, demand the closest attention. Nowhere is this more true than in situations of armed conflict."

Mr. Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau, announced that Canada would contribute \$400 000 to support the work of the United Nations Secretary General's Special Representative (SRSG) for Children in Armed Conflict, Olara Otunnu. Canada's contribution will provide resources to help ensure that the Special Representative's advocacy is sustained and reinforced, and that he is able to ensure continued profile and action on the issue.

"Millions of children have been killed in wars over the past decade, and millions more are hurt physically and psychologically," said Madame Marleau. "Canadians are profoundly concerned about the welfare of children caught in conflict, and CIDA is helping to protect them and provide them with opportunities for their future."

Canada strongly supports the work under way in Geneva to develop an Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which would raise the age of recruitment and participation in hostilities. To that end, Canada is in the process of examining its current legislation on the recruitment of those under 18 into the Canadian armed forces, and has codified its practice of not sending anyone under 18 into hostile zones.



In this respect, Mr. Axworthy announced that Canada and Norway will jointly sponsor a workshop under the Lysøen process — an international human-security initiative formalized by the two countries last spring — that will bring together a small number of governments to consider the common challenges faced in aligning domestic laws with the expected terms of the Protocol. Canada's Department of National Defence will work closely with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in developing and implementing the workshop.

Another project under the Lysøen partnership will be the development of training modules to enhance peacekeepers' awareness, knowledge and expertise in dealing with children in conflict zones. Canada is also examining ways to help strengthen capacity at the international, regional and local levels to ensure that children's rights are a central consideration during every stage of conflict. These might include the deployment of rapid-response mediation teams to advocate on behalf of children in conflict zones, or the inclusion of children's rights in post-conflict peace agreements.

Finally, Mr. Axworthy announced that Canada and Norway will work to bring together government and non-governmental organization (NGO) agendas on the issue of children in armed conflict, with a view to convening an international conference in the future.

Of the funding to the Office of the SRSG, \$300 000 originates from Canada's Peacebuilding Fund, which is administered by the Canadian International Development Agency, and \$100 000 originates from Canada's Peacebuilding Program, which is administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1998 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

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Chantal Reinert  
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and Minister responsible  
for La Francophonie  
(819) 997-6919

Media Relations Office  
The Canadian International  
Development Agency  
(819) 953-6534

# News Release

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International Trade  
Commerce internationale

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

February 15, 1999

(4:15 p.m. EST)

No. 28

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade today released a NAFTA Chapter 11 Notice of Intent recently submitted by a U.S. investor, Pope and Talbot Inc. The document was released to serve the interests of greater public transparency in Chapter 11 investor-state disputes.

The Government of Canada has invited the company to consult on the allegations contained in its Notice of Intent.

- 30 -

For copies of the document or for more information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874







# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

February 16, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EST)

No. 29

## CANADA AND MEXICO TO FURTHER ADVANCE BILATERAL RELATIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced that Canada will host the 13th meeting of the Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee (JMC) from February 17 to 19 in Ottawa.

"Canada and Mexico have been very successful in developing a dynamic relationship and co-operation in a number of areas, including the elimination of landmines and combatting illegal trafficking in firearms," said Mr. Axworthy. "We want to build on our success in these areas to address a wider agenda, including social and cultural co-operation."

Ministers from both countries will focus on areas of global priority such as social development, environment, indigenous co-operation and exchange, cultural expression, and human security issues such as landmines, small arms proliferation, and the wider impact of the drug trade.

"We have rapidly growing trade and investment relations with Mexico as a result of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), with opportunities for current as well as new exporters, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises," said Minister Marchi. "Canada wants to explore with Mexico, a key voice in the hemisphere, co-operative efforts to further trade liberalization in the context of wider, shared values."

In the area of trade and investment co-operation, discussions will cover bilateral trade and investment issues; telecommunications and information technology; transport; the fifth anniversary of the NAFTA; and ways to move forward on hemispheric and multilateral trade objectives.

The Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee was established in 1968. Meetings are held regularly, and hosting alternates between both countries. The ministerial-level forum enables regular, in-depth contact on a variety of issues of common interest.



Mexico will be represented by Foreign Relations Minister Rosario Green; Commerce and Industrial Development Minister Herminio Blanco; Communications and Transportation Minister Carlos Ruiz; Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries Minister Julia Carabias; Health Minister Juan Ramón de la Fuente; and President of the National Council on Culture and the Arts Rafael Tovar y de Teresa.

- 30 -

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International Trade  
Commerce internationale

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

February 17, 1999

(1:00 p.m. EST)

No. 30

## MINISTER MARCHI WELCOMES INDUSTRY REPORT ON TRADE AND CULTURE

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi welcomed a report released today by the Cultural Industries Sectoral Advisory Group on International Trade (SAGIT), calling it a good example of citizen involvement in important national issues.

The report, entitled *Canadian Culture in a Global World: New Strategies for Culture and Trade*, puts forward ideas from the country's cultural industries on how Canada can continue to promote cultural diversity in a changing world.

"This government believes that trade and culture issues are of critical importance not just to Canada but to other countries as well," said Minister Marchi. "Canada's overall objective remains the same: to maintain the ability to preserve and promote domestic cultural policies within our international obligations. I look forward to a discussion on how we can pursue that goal."

The Minister said the report will be part of broad-based consultations on Canadian trade policy taking place across many sectors. He added that the report will provide a basis for informed discussion at the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade on how to sustain and promote Canadian cultural industries in future trade negotiations.

"This report has been over two years in the making, and I look forward to reading the SAGIT's ideas about future strategies for culture and trade. I will be sharing the report with my Cabinet colleagues including the Minister of Canadian Heritage," said Minister Marchi.

There are 14 Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade, and the members of each group represent a diverse cross-section of that sector. The Cultural Industries SAGIT has 16 members including artists, producers and distributors.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has agreed to make the SAGIT report available through its Web site (at <http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/trade->



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culture) and from its Enquiries Centre (1-800-267-8376 or 613-944-4000 in the Ottawa/Hull region).

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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(613) 992-7332

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February 17, 1999

(7:00 p.m. EST)

No. 31

## **FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA TO VISIT CANADA**

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced today that Aleksandar Dimitrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), will visit Ottawa and Toronto from February 18 to 22. Mr. Dimitrov's visit follows that of Mr. Axworthy to FYROM in March 1998.

In Ottawa, Mr. Dimitrov will meet with Minister Axworthy as well as with National Defence Minister Art Eggleton.

"We are pleased to have this timely opportunity for consulting with Mr. Dimitrov," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada has a strong interest in the Balkans and in a peace settlement for Kosovo. FYROM plays a key role in the stability of the region and we are keen to achieve still closer co-operation between our two countries."

FYROM borders Kosovo and serves as a logistical base for activities of the Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and as the headquarters of the NATO Extraction Force in support of the KVM.

Discussions will also focus on bilateral relations, including efforts to enhance our economic and commercial ties. While in Toronto, Mr. Dimitrov will preside over the inauguration of the Macedonian-Canadian Business Council.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

February 18, 1999

(7:30 p.m. EST)

No. 32

## CANADA ANNOUNCES ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE 13TH MEETING OF THE CANADA-MEXICO JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE

The Government of Canada today announced the results of the 13th meeting of the Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee, which took place in Ottawa February 17 to 18. The meeting brought together Canadian and Mexican ministers to further Canada-Mexico co-operation in a number of areas, such as social development, environment, Indigenous relations, culture, human security, trade and investment relations, telecommunications and information technology and transport.

The Mexican delegation was composed of Secretary of Foreign Affairs Rosario Green; Secretary of Commerce and Industrial Development Herminio Blanco; Secretary of Communications and Transportation Carlos Ruiz; Secretary of the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries Julia Carabias; Secretary of Health Juan Ramón de la Fuente; and President of the National Council for Culture and the Arts Rafael Tovar y de Teresa.

The meeting involved the participation of the following Canadian ministers: Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi, Transport Minister David Collenette, Natural Resources Minister Ralph E. Goodale, Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps, Industry Minister John Manley, Environment Minister Christine Stewart, Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Jane Stewart, Human Resources Development Minister Pierre Pettigrew, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour; and Secretary of State (Agriculture and Agri-Food, Fisheries and Oceans) Gilbert Normand.

During the meeting, agreement was reached in the following areas:

- A **Declaration of Intent on satellite co-operation** was signed by Industry Minister John Manley and Mexico's Secretary of Communications and Transport, Carlos Ruiz, to advance Canada-Mexico co-operation in satellite communication services. The declaration formalizes both countries' intention to conclude, later this year, a co-operation agreement for mobile and fixed satellite services, which will provide a framework to facilitate bilateral trade in satellite communication services.



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- A **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on test data acceptance** was signed by International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi (on behalf of Industry Minister John Manley) and by Mexico's Secretary of Commerce and Industrial Development, Herminio Blanco, to ensure that telecommunications and information technology products traded between both countries meet all necessary safety standards. The MOU enables laboratories accredited to test information technology and telecommunication products in one country to exchange product safety test data with laboratories in the other country.
- The **Ocean Charter**, for which Canada is the sponsoring nation, was signed by Mexico's Secretary of the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries, Julia Carabias, as an acknowledgement of the importance of oceans and a commitment to protect oceans and use their resources in a sustainable manner. The Ocean Charter was drawn up in 1998 by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO to mark the International Year of the Ocean. Mexico became the 81st signatory country on the Charter.
- A **Declaration of Intent on joint co-operation projects on Indigenous affairs** commits Canada's Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Mexico's National Institute for Indigenous Affairs to develop joint co-operation projects, exchanges and other initiatives. The agreement will help foster economic and cultural ties between Indigenous groups in both countries.
- A **Canada-Mexico Joint Statement on small arms and anti-personnel mines** was signed by Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Mexico's Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Rosario Green, highlighting the need to tackle problems associated with the proliferation of small arms and their joint support for the global elimination of anti-personnel landmines. It also formalizes their joint commitment to improve co-operation in preventing and combatting the accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons, to continue to work together toward the elimination of landmines, and to work with the Pan American Health Organization in mine victim assistance and community rehabilitation in Central America.
- A **line of credit of US\$50 million** was signed by Export Development Corporation and Mexico's state-owned oil company, Petroleos Mexicanos. The line of credit is designed to increase trade between Canada and Mexico in the oil and gas sector. It is structured to finance transactions in a range that accommodates contracts awarded to Canadian small and medium-sized enterprises.
- A **Canada-Mexico joint communiqué on the importance of cultural diversity** was issued by Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps and Mexico's President



of the National Council for Culture and the Arts, Rafael Tovar y de Teresa, confirming their joint commitment to collaborate on the promotion and preservation of cultural and linguistic diversity. This principle will be implemented in the context of Canada-Mexico bilateral relations and within international fora, such as the International Network on Cultural Policy.

- **A Joint Statement on Canada-Mexico agriculture relations** was tabled by Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief and Mexico's Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development, Romárico Arroyo, outlining achievements to date, and establishing a plan for future initiatives in the agriculture sector. The statement is based on the results of a September 1998 meeting between Minister Vanclief and Secretary Arroyo and addresses issues ranging from bilateral trade co-operation to co-operation within international fora.
- **An expansion of air rights under the Canada-Mexico Air Transport Agreement** was announced by Transport Minister David Collenette and Mexico's Secretary of Communications and Transportation, Carlos Ruiz, following their bilateral meeting. The expanded air rights feature improved access for airlines, charter carriers, travellers and shippers from both countries.
- **A Letter of Intent on climate change** was signed by Environment Minister Christine Stewart and Mexico's Secretary of Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries, Julia Carabias, committing both countries to develop initiatives aimed at sharing information, techniques and solutions with respect to global climate change, to identify opportunities for co-operation to help developed countries achieve their emission reduction commitments (under the Kyoto Protocol), and to help developing countries meet their development goals in a sustainable manner.
- **A Letter of Intent on co-operation in watershed management** was signed by Environment Minister Christine Stewart and Mexico's Secretary of Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries, Julia Carabias, committing both countries to collaborate on undertaking a workshop to identify priorities with respect to the adoption of an integrated approach for the ecological management of the Lake Chapala watershed, the main source of water for the city of Guadalajara, Mexico.

In addition, it was agreed that an Aboriginal trade mission to Mexico will be undertaken in April by Canadian Indigenous leaders and business people to seize on new opportunities for co-operation. This promotion of economic co-operation features as an important component of joint efforts to broaden links between Canadian and Mexican Indigenous cultures.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874

This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

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*Commerce international*

# *News Release*

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

**February 19, 1999**

**(9:15 a.m. EST)**

**No. 33**

## **MARCHI TO LEAD BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO THE MIDDLE EAST**

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi will lead a business development mission to the Middle East from February 22 to 28. The itinerary will include stops in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Israel, and Gaza and the West Bank. Mr. Marchi will be accompanied by a delegation with representatives of 44 Canadian companies doing business in the region.

"Canada's exports to these four markets totalled more than \$1.3 billion in 1997," said Mr. Marchi. "This mission is an opportunity for Canadian business to build on existing partnerships, and to further expand into a region that holds great promise economically."

Priority sectors for Canadian exporters during the mission include telecommunications, information technologies, agri-food, engineering and construction, oil and gas, and power generation and transmission. Opportunities also exist in the education and training sector.

Upon arrival on February 22, Mr. Marchi will visit the Canadian-designed King Abdulaziz Historical Museum in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, before launching a joint meeting of the Canada-Arab Business Council and the Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The following day, the Minister will participate in the ninth session of the Canada-Saudi Joint Economic Commission, and will meet with a number of leading Saudi government officials.

In the UAE on February 24, Mr. Marchi will open the new Canadian Embassy building in Abu Dhabi, meet with several Ministers from the UAE, and deliver a speech to the Canada Business Council, Abu Dhabi. He will also visit Dubai to meet with government officials and Canadian business representatives. On February 25, the Minister will meet with the Ruler of the Emirate of Sharjah, His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi. He will then visit the Sharjah Expo Centre, where a Canadian Technology Showcase will be taking place, before departing for Israel that evening.



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"Canada is committed to promoting a stable economic and political environment in the Middle East," said Mr. Marchi. "By supporting stronger economic links, we can broaden Canada's presence in the region and build on our existing political partnerships."

In Israel, Mr. Marchi will attend a meeting with Israeli Trade Minister Natan Sharansky to review the two-year-old Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA) and explore ways to continue advancing our trade relationship with Israel. Since implementation of the CIFTA on January 1, 1997, trade between the two countries has grown by 40 percent. The Minister will also meet with Israeli government officials in Jerusalem. He will then travel to Tel Aviv to witness the signing of business agreements and to address the Canadian Business Delegation.

On Friday, February 26, Minister Marchi will be the first Canadian official to fly into Gaza International Airport. He will then meet with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Gaza City.

The following day, Mr. Marchi will travel to Ramallah, West Bank, to sign a joint Canadian-Palestinian Framework for Economic Co-operation and Trade. He will also officially open the Canadian Representative Office in Ramallah.

- 30 -

A list of participants in the Business Development Mission is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Leslie Swartman  
Office of the Minister for International Trade  
(613) 992-7332

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874

## **Backgrounder**

### **Participants in the Business Development Mission to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Israel, and Gaza and the West Bank**

**AGRA International Limited**, Oakville, Ontario  
**Alberta Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs**, Edmonton, Alberta  
**Bank of Nova Scotia**, Toronto, Ontario  
**Bombardier Aerospace, Regional Aircraft Division**, Downsview, Ontario  
**Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation**, Ottawa, Ontario  
**Canada Post Systems Management Ltd.**, Ottawa, Ontario  
**Canadian Bank Note Company Limited**, Ottawa, Ontario  
**Canadian Commercial Corporation**, Ottawa, Ontario  
**Cansult Group Ltd.**, Markham, Ontario  
**Carnegie Crescent Consulting**, Thornhill, Ontario  
**Edwin Industries Canada Inc.**, Richmond Hill, Ontario  
**EFA Software Services Ltd.**, Calgary, Alberta  
**Eicon Technology Corporation**, Montreal, Quebec  
**Export Development Corporation**, Ottawa, Ontario  
**Ferrell Building Supplies Ltd.**, Stoney Creek, Ontario  
**Fulton Windows**, Mississauga, Ontario  
**G.A. Paper International Inc.**, Markham, Ontario  
**General Motors of Canada Limited, Diesel Division**, London, Ontario  
**Georgian College**, Barrie, Ontario  
**Harris Canada Inc.**, Dollard des Ormeaux, Quebec  
**Ingersoll-Rand Canada Inc.**, Rexdale, Ontario  
**JG Group of Companies**, Waterloo, Ontario  
**Joe Ng Engineering**, Hamilton, Ontario  
**Loyalist College**, Belleville, Ontario  
**Manitoba Trade and Investment Corp.**, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
**Ministère de l'Industrie, du Commerce, de la Science et de la Technologie du Québec**, Montreal, Quebec  
**Nautel Limited**, Tantallon, Nova Scotia  
**Newbridge Networks Corp.**, Kanata, Ontario  
**Oakville Electric Motor Services Inc.**, Mississauga, Ontario  
**Omni Research Group**, Dorval, Quebec  
**P.A. Management International (Canada) Inc.**, Montreal, Quebec  
**Petro Staff International Ltd.**, Calgary, Alberta  
**Serdim Technologies Corporation (Canada)**, Sainte-Dorothée, Quebec  
**Shade-o-Matic**, North York, Ontario  
**SHL Systemhouse Co.**, Ottawa, Ontario  
**SNC-Lavalin International Inc.**, Montreal, Quebec  
**Southern Alberta Institute of Technology**, Calgary, Alberta  
**SR Telecom Inc.**, Montreal, Quebec

**Standard Aero Ltd.**, Winnipeg, Manitoba

**Telexis Corporation**, Kanata, Ontario

**Terra Surveys Limited**, Ottawa, Ontario

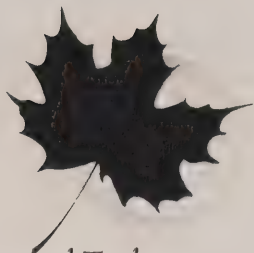
**Trow Consulting Engineers Ltd.**, Brampton, Ontario

**Universal Systems Ltd. (CARIS)**, Fredericton, New Brunswick

**University of Alberta**, Edmonton, Alberta

**York University, Schulich School of Business**, North York, Ontario





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# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

February 19, 1999

(11: 10 a.m. EST)

No. 34

## CANADA'S 1998 EXPORTS AT RECORD LEVELS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi announced that record setting year-end trade statistics released by Statistics Canada today indicate that trade is strengthening Canadian prosperity.

"All-time high trade figures during a period when many world economies have taken tough hits should tell us that we are on the right track, with the right trade policies, at the right time," said Minister Marchi. "Canadians have the confidence and the ability to take on the world."

Statistics Canada released figures showing that Canada's merchandise export performance in 1998 increased 7.4 percent over 1997 to \$323.4 billion, and almost doubled from \$163 billion in 1992. A 9.8 percent increase in merchandise imports in 1998 resulted in an overall Canadian trade surplus of \$19.4 billion that year. The rise in exports again outshone Canada's GDP growth by 4.5 percent in 1998, proving the leading role of trade in Canada.

"The U.S. remains by far our most important trading partner. It's great to see that we are selling more high-skilled and knowledge-intensive products in one of the most competitive markets in the world," Minister Marchi said. Sales of Canadian machinery and equipment increased by 15.9 percent in 1998.

Canada's strong export performance in 1998 is all the more remarkable given the tough economic times in Asia and Latin America. Canada's merchandise trade statistics indicate that overall Canadian exports declined by 27.7 percent to most of Canada's Asian trading partners, and by 10.2 percent to Latin America. However, exports to Asia only account for 5.7 percent of Canada's overall exports, while exports to Latin America account for 1.8 percent.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:



Department of Foreign Affairs  
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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

February 19, 1999

(4:45 p.m. EST)

No. 35

## KILGOUR TO TRAVEL TO CENTRAL AMERICA

Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour will visit Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica and Panama from February 22 to 26 to promote the Foreign Ministers' Dialogue Group on Drugs with the foreign ministers and officials of those countries.

"Canada's approach to the illicit drug problem is to see it as a human security issue, rather than one of only enforcement," said Mr. Kilgour. "The illicit drug problem has disastrous effects on many aspects of a country's life, including education, health and governance."

The Dialogue Group, which was launched by Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy in Jamaica on January 8, 1999, is designed to address the broad impact of illicit drugs on the hemisphere. The intention to create such an initiative was announced by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien during the April 1998 Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile. As part of the same initiative, Mr. Kilgour met with foreign ministers and senior officials of Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador in late January.

- 30 -

A backgrounder summarizing Canada's approach is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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(613) 992-9404

Media Relations Office  
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## Backgrounder

### DRUGS AND HUMAN SECURITY

Illicit drugs pose formidable challenges to all the countries in the Americas. The consumption of synthetic and plant-based drugs is particularly alarming in North America, but demand for these narcotics is growing in the rest of the hemisphere. Drug abuse has deleterious effects on individual consumers and on families. Abuse and production feed off rural poverty, criminality and urban decay; they also aggravate these social problems. Scarce public revenues are diverted from productive activities. Economies are distorted, democracy is threatened, and the relations between states are jeopardized by the frustrations of dealing with this transnational problem.

A web of international instruments has been crafted, at the global and hemispheric levels, to confront the challenges posed by drugs. Many governments are investing resources to prevent drug abuse through education, to treat and rehabilitate addicts through health interventions, to eradicate illicit crops, and to foster alternative development. They are also acting to control the manufacture of synthetic drugs and the diversion of precursor chemicals, to interdict drug trafficking within and across borders, and to reduce the money laundering, corruption and trafficking of small arms that buttress the illicit drugs industry.

The private sector, research centres and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are important partners in many of these areas, especially in education, health, development and governance. Multilateral institutions, particularly the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and the UN International Drug Control Program, have contributed enormously by facilitating dialogue, fostering new standards, and providing technical assistance as well as financial support. The current development of a Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism, under the auspices of CICAD, should enhance the assessment of national anti-drug efforts, promote learning from experience, and facilitate the management of intergovernmental relations in this important but sensitive area.

Yet from a human security perspective, more can be done. Human security places the well-being of individuals and communities at the centre of our common search for security. It advocates holistic responses to multi-faceted problems like illicit drugs. It calls for the creation of dynamic partnerships among governments, international organizations and civil society. As such, a human security analysis leads us to conclude that five areas deserve greater attention:

- 1. Governance:** How can we enhance the capacity of police and judicial institutions to enforce the law while guaranteeing justice and human rights, and how can we build on efforts to minimize corruption and curtail the political

influence of drug-related criminal organizations?

**2. Small arms and firearms:** How can we work together to promote the ratification of the Inter-American Firearms Convention, the development of complementary global instruments, and the strengthening of domestic institutions charged with implementing these standards?

**3. Development and trade:** How can we provide greater support for the development of legal, productive activities as alternatives to illicit drug crops, and how could we enhance market access for these alternative goods?

**4. Education and health:** What can be done to generate greater international co-operation to promote preventive and curative approaches to drug abuse? How could we promote research on the effectiveness of demand-reduction programs in different national settings?

**5. Public engagement:** How can we encourage public initiatives, and how might we involve sectors of the public in a dialogue on policy options, as appropriate?

This list is not meant to be exhaustive; it is simply a starting point for dialogue with other governments in the hemisphere. Nor does the proposal displace the central role of CICAD and other multilateral bodies; rather, it aims to generate greater support for existing initiatives in areas like demand reduction and development, and to nurture the will to innovate themes like public engagement, which are critical to the pursuit of human security in the Americas.

Foreign ministers will notice that there is considerable overlap between this list and the Santiago Summit Plan of Action. We believe that the human security perspective offers a useful bridge between the hemispheric anti-drug agenda and the broader summit process. As such, Canada proposes that these themes be explored by foreign ministers in mid-1999, on the occasion of the OAS General Assembly in Guatemala, and that this discussion be deepened in the lead-up to the next Summit of the Americas.

**Specifically, next steps for a dialogue among foreign ministers might include:**

- March 1999: Conference to present more in-depth research on the linkages between drugs and governance, small arms, alternative development and trade, education and health, and opportunities for public engagement in anti-drug efforts.
- June 1999: First Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, at the margins of the OAS General Assembly in Guatemala, to review conclusions from the conference



and mandate further research, dialogue and action.

- Mid-1999 to mid-2000: Possible meetings with broader stakeholders, to prepare the ground for deeper dialogue among foreign ministers.
- June 2000: Second Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, at the margins of the OAS General Assembly. The aim could be to review actions taken on key issues at the intersection of drugs and human security in the hemisphere, to identify follow-up priorities before and beyond the next Summit of the Americas.
- 2000-2001: Foreign ministers report on the results of their dialogue at the Summit of the Americas, in Canada. The aim of this report could be to obtain a mandate for further action, and possibly dialogue, on drugs and human security priorities.

Throughout this process, the Summit Implementation and Review Group should be kept fully informed about the results of the Foreign Ministers' Dialogue.



# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

February 22, 1999

(4:25 p.m. EST)

No. 36

## WINNIPEG TO HOST THREE INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL PROJECTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced three international projects drawing on the cultural resources of Winnipeg's music and dance community. Two of the projects will add a cultural element to the Pan Am Games, which will be held in Winnipeg in the summer of 1999. The other will add a cultural element to closer relations between Canada and Russia.

The Royal Winnipeg Ballet has received a grant of \$80 000 to commission a ballet on the occasion of the Games, under the leadership of Artistic Director André Lewis.

Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers have been awarded a grant of \$40 000 to launch the Pan-American New Creation Project. They will bring together contemporary dance artists from Mexico, the United States and Canada to mark and enrich the Pan Am Games.

"At the 1999 PanAm Games, the countries of the Americas will come together in Canada to celebrate excellence in sport. In that same spirit, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers will come together with a pan-American community of artists to celebrate creative excellence," said Mr. Axworthy.

Minister Axworthy also announced that the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra will be granted \$25 000 to organize an exchange of young musicians with Russia.

"My recent visit to Russia was about drawing closer ties between Canada and Russia. Our young musicians, with their shared passion for musical excellence, should be part of that," said Mr. Axworthy.

One young musician from Canada and one from Russia will study for several months in each other's country. They will also be given opportunities for public performances.

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These grants are provided under the International Cultural Relations Program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. This program supports foreign relations initiatives in the arts and higher education.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Media representatives are also very welcome to contact:

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Executive Director  
Royal Winnipeg Ballet  
(204) 956-0183

Ms. Judy Slivinski  
International Liaison  
Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers  
(204) 452-0229  
E-mail: [wcd@mb.sympatico.ca](mailto:wcd@mb.sympatico.ca)

Ms. Young-Mi Snyder  
Director of Artistic Operations  
Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra  
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International Trade  
Commerce international

# News Release

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

February 23, 1999

(12:00 p.m. EST)

No. 37

## MARCHI LEADS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today concluded a two-day Canadian business development mission to Saudi Arabia highlighted by meetings with Foreign Affairs Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal and Minister of Commerce Osama Faqih.

"Canada's bilateral trade with Saudi Arabia has consistently surpassed \$1 billion yearly," said Mr. Marchi. "We believe that there is even greater economic potential in Saudi Arabia, and this mission provides an opportunity to further develop Canadian commercial interests here." Forty Canadian firms accompanied the Minister on the visit. More than 200 Canadian firms are currently active in Saudi Arabia, and over 7000 Canadians work in the country.

In Riyadh today, Mr. Marchi witnessed the signing of an agreement between the Canada-Arab Business Council and the Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry to create the new Saudi-Canada Business Council. This new organization aims to intensify the business-to-business partnerships that are key to future two-way trade between the two countries.

Minister Marchi participated in the ninth session of the Canada-Saudi Joint Economic Commission (JEC), which concentrates on improving relations and awareness of Canadian capabilities in business priority sectors, including education, transportation, training, and information technology. At this meeting, the two sides also agreed on greater private sector involvement in the JEC process.

Mr. Marchi also observed the signing of two agreements by Canadian companies. SHL Vision Solutions of Ottawa and Al-Daleel International Systems of Riyadh have agreed to pursue opportunities in large scale spatial data management systems in Saudi Arabia. The partnership will initially result in projects valued at \$5 million, leading to potential revenues of \$100 million over the coming three to five years. Edwin Industries Canada Inc. of Richmond Hill, Ontario, and Almamee Trading and Industrial Corporation of Riyadh have agreed to appoint Almamee as the Saudi agent



for promoting and selling Canadian-made medical equipment for cancer treatment. The partnership is valued at \$5 million for the first year.

Yesterday, the Minister visited the Canadian-designed King Abdulaziz Historical Centre, which commemorates the centenary of the process to establish Saudi Arabia. Several Canadian companies were pivotal in the building of the museum, especially in the architectural, interior and exhibition design.

"This mission has helped to renew bilateral ties, and I am pleased that Minister of Commerce Faqih and other Saudi officials will soon be visiting Canada," said Mr. Marchi. Minister Faqih will visit Canada in early March, followed in June by Minister of Higher Education Khalid bin Muhammad al-Angari.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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International Trade  
Commerce internationale

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

February 25, 1999

(1:00 p.m. EST)

No. 38

## VIDEOCONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES IN CHINA

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced a Canada–China videoconference that will highlight opportunities for small and medium-sized Canadian exporters in the China market by linking them with trade experts in both countries.

On March 3, exporters in nine Canadian cities will come together for the videoconference, which will include presentations by Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan, senior Canadian government officials in China, and the Canada–China Business Council. Speakers will then field questions from across the country, after which participants will take part in local information and networking sessions.

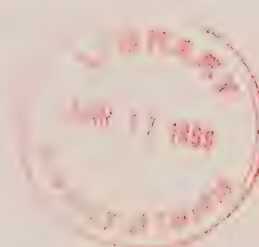
"Canada is working hard to expand and diversify trade with China, where there are real business opportunities for small and medium-sized businesses," said Minister Marchi, who led two trade missions to China in 1998.

"This innovative event will use a combination of high technology and more traditional approaches to have a true international meeting of the minds on doing business in this dynamic but complex market," said Secretary of State Raymond Chan.

Those taking questions from participants in the videoconference include: Howard Balloch, Canada's Ambassador to China; Senator Jack Austin, President of the Canada–China Business Council; Robert Collette, Minister (Commercial) with the Canadian Embassy in Beijing; and Michael Fine, Senior Trade Commissioner with the Canadian Consulate General in Hong Kong.

The information and networking sessions will focus on financing, business services, joint ventures and the business culture in China. Experts will provide an in-depth view of the challenges for small and medium-sized businesses in China, followed by questions and a networking session.

Participants will also receive a copy of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's (DFAIT) new *SME [small and medium-sized enterprises]*



*Survival Guide to the China Market*. The guide, also posted on the DFAIT Asia-Pacific/China Web site ([www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/China](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/China)), provides comprehensive answers to key questions that a new exporter would have before venturing to China.

The event is sponsored by DFAIT, the Canada–China Business Council, and Canada's Technology Triangle, a group of technology-based companies that works with the public sector and educational institutions in southern Ontario.

The participating cities are Vancouver, Calgary, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Kitchener-Waterloo, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax.

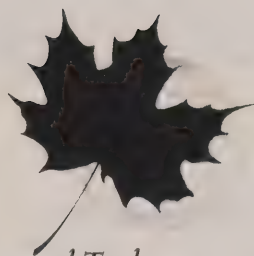
- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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International Trade  
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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

February 25, 1999

(2:00 p.m. EST)

No. 39

## MARCHI OPENS NEW CANADIAN EMBASSY IN THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi officially opened the new Canadian Chancery in Abu Dhabi yesterday during a two-day business development mission to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The Minister was accompanied by 40 Canadian companies looking to explore business opportunities in the Gulf region.

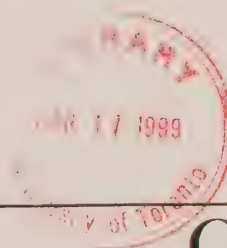
"The expansion of our diplomatic presence here demonstrates the tremendous growth in business between our two countries," said Mr. Marchi. "This visit is an excellent opportunity for Canadian firms looking to build partnerships in the UAE."

The Emirates represent the fastest-growing market for Canadians in the Middle East. In 1998, Canadian exports to the UAE reached an estimated \$270 million, an almost fivefold increase over the past six years. During this mission, Mr. Marchi witnessed the signing of five agreements worth \$5 million between businesses from Canada and the UAE.

Priority export sectors for Canadian businesses in the UAE include telecommunications, information technology, agri-food and agriculture, construction, building materials and services, and education and training.

The Minister met with several senior UAE government officials, including Sheikh Sultan bin Zayed Al-Nahayan, Deputy Prime Minister of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, and Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammad bin Sultan Al-Qassimi, Deputy Ruler of Sharjah. He also met with the Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research in Abu Dhabi, and the Minister of Finance and Industry in Dubai.

Mr. Marchi today attended the Canadian Technology Showcase in Sharjah, the first exclusively Canadian trade exhibition to be held in the Emirates. A further 22 Canadian companies are participating in this event.





In discussions on government-to-government relations, the two countries agreed to conclude a double taxation agreement at the earliest date. In addition, the Minister indicated that Canada and the UAE would pursue the completion of a visa agreement, which would facilitate business travel in both directions.

Mr. Marchi took the opportunity of this visit to announce the selection of Air Canada as Canada's designated carrier to provide air services between Canada and the UAE.

"We look forward to a speedy conclusion of negotiations on an air services agreement with the UAE," said the Minister. "Improved air links will certainly contribute to the ongoing growth in trade and tourism between our two countries."

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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February 25, 1999

(7:30 p.m. EST)

No. 40

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES GRANT TO THE INSTITUT QUÉBÉCOIS DES HAUTES ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced a \$250 000 grant to the Institut québécois des hautes études internationales of the Université Laval to support its graduate program in international relations.

"In this era of globalization, it is important to encourage Canadian researchers and students to enhance their knowledge and expand their research in international relations," said Mr. Axworthy.

The grant will be used to establish a three-year partnership between the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and the Institut québécois des hautes études internationales. Funds will be used to bring students and researchers to DFAIT to participate in educational forums on a host of international topics and to send departmental officials to the Institut to lecture on their area of expertise. The grant will also support core school activities by providing funding for teaching, research, and publishing in the field of international relations.

The grant will be funded through DFAIT's International Academic Relations Program. It responds to a need identified by the university for multi-year funding for the Institut.

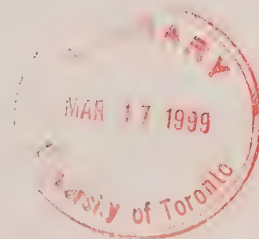
The Institut québécois des hautes études internationales is the only such body in Canada to offer a French-language multidisciplinary graduate program in international relations. Contributing to the work of the Institut are experts in political science, history, economics, law, geography and other disciplines.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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International Trade  
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# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

February 26, 1999

(10:50 a.m. EST)

No. 41

## MARCHI MEETS ARAFAT TO DEVELOP NEW ECONOMIC LINKS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today met with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to discuss economic relations between Canada and the West Bank and Gaza. After landing at Gaza International Airport, Mr. Marchi also went on to visit several Canadian projects in Gaza. In Ramallah tomorrow, he will meet with Palestinian Minister of Economy and Trade Maher Masri.

"One of the main objectives of this mission is to strengthen commercial ties between Canada and the West Bank and Gaza," said Minister Marchi. "We believe economic prosperity for Palestinians is an essential part of building peace in the Middle East."

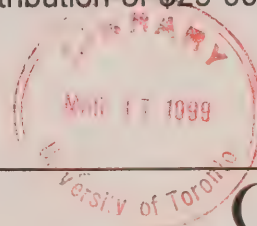
During his meeting with Mr. Arafat, Mr. Marchi discussed the status of the Middle East peace process, Canadian commercial objectives in the region, and the Joint Canadian-Palestinian Framework on Economic Co-operation and Trade, which will be signed with the Palestinian Authority in Ramallah on Saturday.

"The Framework represents an important milestone in economic relations between Canadians and Palestinians," said Mr. Marchi. "I am confident that it will provide the tools to build strong business partnerships in the future."

A delegation of Canadian business representatives is accompanying the Minister on this visit in order to explore opportunities in the markets of the West Bank and Gaza.

On February 27, Mr. Marchi will also officially open the Canadian Representative Office in Ramallah. "The presence of this office reflects the growth in our relations," said the Minister. "It will help Canadians develop commercial ties, and will assist Palestinians in the search for economic stability and peace."

While in Gaza, Minister Marchi opened a children's playground in Khan Yunis, funded by the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives. It was transformed from a dump site into a playground in only three months with a Canadian contribution of \$25 000.



He also witnessed the laying of a cornerstone for a future Canadian-Palestinian university in Gaza. This project is a collaboration between Fanshawe College of London, Ontario, and Palestinian investors; the goal is to establish a private university focussing on technical courses. Fanshawe College will be responsible for developing the curriculum, providing teachers and managing the university.

"I have had excellent discussions with the Palestinian leadership," said Minister Marchi. "This visit marks the beginning of a new economic era between Palestinians and Canadians."

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Background information on the Joint Canadian-Palestinian Framework on Economic Co-operation and Trade is available on request.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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February 26, 1999

(2:15 p.m. EST)

No. 42

**GERMAN VICE-CHANCELLOR AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER  
AND EUROPEAN COMMISSION VICE-PRESIDENT  
TO VISIT CANADA TO ENHANCE CANADA–GERMANY AND  
CANADA–EU RELATIONS**

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the visit to Canada on March 1 of Joschka Fischer, Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Affairs Minister of Germany and President of the Council of Ministers of the European Union (EU), and of Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission. Mr. Axworthy and his German counterpart will take part in a bilateral Canada–Germany meeting and in a Canada–EU meeting, the latter involving the participation of Sir Leon Brittan.

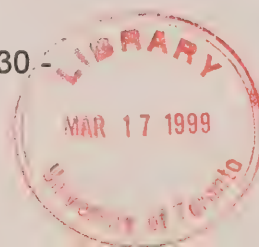
"Canada's relations with Germany are based on a commonality of values and priorities," said Mr. Axworthy. "This compatibility translates not only in our ability to develop, adopt and implement joint and parallel policies, for example, with respect to landmines, but also in our ability to co-operate within multilateral fora such as NATO, the UN and the G-8."

The bilateral meeting between Ministers Axworthy and Fischer will focus on a range of bilateral and multilateral issues including: the upcoming G-8 meeting in Köln, Germany; the upcoming NATO summit; Canadian priorities at the UN Security Council; international peacekeeping; the Middle East Peace Process and economic reforms in Ukraine.

With respect to the Canada–EU meeting, Mr. Axworthy stated, "Given our similar approaches to conflict resolution, Canada and the EU can do much together to help in the demining of former war zones and the safe development of microdisarmament procedures, which can help stem the flow of small arms to war-afflicted regions of the world."

In the context of the Canada–EU transatlantic ministerial meeting, Ministers Axworthy and Fischer and Sir Leon Brittan will focus on co-operation on human security issues such as small arms and landmines, and conflict situations in Kosovo and in Africa. The status of Canada–EU relations and objectives for the next Canada–EU Summit will also be raised.

- 30 -



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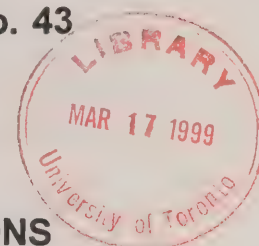
# News Release

[www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca)

February 26, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EST)

No. 43



## CANADA URGES PROGRESS IN THE UPCOMING EAST TIMOR TALKS AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the progress made in the ongoing rounds of United Nations-sponsored tripartite (Portugal, Indonesia and the UN) talks on the future of East Timor, based in large part on the change in Indonesian government policy and their willingness to consider autonomy or independence for East Timor. In this context, Canada urges the parties involved in the negotiations to examine UN proposals for a procedure that would give the East Timorese an opportunity to exercise self-determination in accordance with their status as a non self-governing territory.

Canada views the UN Tripartite Process, under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General, as holding the best prospect for a peaceful solution to the issues affecting East Timor. These UN-sponsored discussions between Indonesia and Portugal are set to resume on March 9 in New York.

"The most effective way to ensure progress is through meaningful and comprehensive consultations with the East Timorese, as has been advocated by the UN Secretary General's Personal Representative, Jamsheed Marker," Mr. Axworthy said. "It will be up to the parties involved, with the assistance of the UN, to decide on how consultation with the East Timorese will take place."

Minister Axworthy reiterated Canada's concern about the level of violence in East Timor. He called for an immediate end to violence and a process of disarmament by all parties, including civilian militias. In this regard, the Minister declared Canada's support for the proposal by East Timorese leader, Xanana Gusmao, for a Peace Commission, which would bring together a group of Timorese leaders and Indonesian officials to calm tensions in East Timor as the territory prepares to express itself about its future. The Minister renewed Canada's call for the full and unconditional release of Mr. Gusmao and other East Timorese political prisoners.

In addition, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan commended the UN for its involvement in the process of determining East Timor's future. "The UN, and particularly Special Representative Marker, have played a crucial role in moving



toward a resolution to this issue," Mr. Chan said. "Canada believes that the UN should establish a presence in East Timor in order to enhance its effectiveness there."

Minister Axworthy referred to the extensive bilateral relations that exist between Canada and Indonesia, recalling in particular Canada's direct support to the Indonesian Human Rights Commission, and Canada's significant development assistance programs over the years, including financial support to previous rounds of the All Inclusive Intra-East Timorese Dialogue.

The Centre for Canadian Foreign Policy Development this week hosted a roundtable on East Timor to examine the current political, social and economic context, and to look at ways in which Canada might assist East Timor in a peaceful transition. The roundtable was attended by both Canadian non-governmental organizations and representatives from the East Timorese community.

"There have been important democratization efforts by the Indonesian government over recent months, along with progress toward stabilizing the economy," Mr. Axworthy said. "The impact of the financial and economic difficulties of the past 18 months have been substantial for the Indonesian people. I wish to underline Canada's intention to continue to help in both the political and economic realms."

East Timor, with a population of 800 000, is a former colony of Portugal. It was annexed as the 27th province of Indonesia in 1976. Canada is the third-largest donor in East Timor, with \$1.1 million in aid provided each year.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

[www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca)

February 26, 1999

(3:55 p.m. EST)

No. 44

## AXWORTHY TO MARK ENTRY INTO FORCE OF LANDMINES CONVENTION

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel (AP) Mines and on their Destruction, commonly known as the Ottawa Convention, enters into force on Monday, March 1, 1999, and is one of the most rapidly ratified multilateral conventions of its kind.

"I am delighted at how quickly we have moved from promise to reality with this Convention," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. "In October 1996, when the Ottawa Process was launched, few could have foreseen that in a mere 29 months, the principles and values of the movement to ban landmines would be enshrined in international law. The speed with which the Convention has entered into force could not have been achieved without the efforts of partnering countries, as well as international and non-governmental organizations, which continue to work tirelessly to end the humanitarian tragedy caused by these vicious weapons."

Mr. Axworthy will lead off events on March 1 as the invited speaker at a Newsmakers breakfast at the National Press Club in Ottawa, where he will speak about the Ottawa Process and the significance of the Convention's entry into force.

Later that morning, the Minister will host a commemorative ceremony in the lobby of the Lester B. Pearson Building in Ottawa — headquarters of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Prime Minister Chrétien will take part in unveiling a plaque to mark the occasion, and will be joined by several dignitaries, including Joschka Fischer, Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister of Germany, and Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission. Diane Marleau, Minister for International Co-operation, and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, representatives of the foreign diplomatic corps, as well as a delegation of Members of Parliament and Senators, including members of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade, will also be present. In addition, representatives of the Canadian Red Cross and Mines Action Canada, key partners in the international effort to ban anti-personnel mines, will take part.

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Mines Action Canada, in collaboration with a network of organizations, has taken the lead on bringing about Canada's participation in one of the most visible, and indeed audible, international public events to mark the occasion. At 1:00 p.m., bells on public buildings and churches across Canada and in other countries, including Brazil, France, Italy, Norway, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States, will ring to signal the entry of the Ottawa Convention into international law. Residents of Ottawa will hear the bells on Parliament's Peace Tower joining in this international symphony.

Canada's five Youth Mine Action Ambassadors, based in Saint John, N.B., Montreal, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver, have organized "Dance Without Fear," a nationwide series of youth dances to mark the Convention's entry into force and to raise funds for the Canadian Landmine Action Fund. This is a charitable fund that aims to generate sustained long-term funding for demining and victim assistance.

The Ottawa Convention becomes binding in international law on the first day of the sixth month after the 40th ratification. Burkina Faso triggered that countdown when, on September 16, 1998, it became the 40th country to deposit its instrument of ratification with the United Nations.

Entry into force means that the clock starts ticking for States Parties — countries that have ratified the Convention — to meet their commitments. For example, they will have four years from their entry-into-force date to destroy all stockpiles of AP mines, and up to ten years to destroy all AP mines actively deployed in areas under their control. March 1, 1999, is the entry-into-force date for the 45 countries that became States Parties before the end of September 1998. Entry-into-force dates will vary for countries that ratified the treaty on, or after, October 1, 1998, but will always follow the same formula — the first day of the sixth month following ratification.

To date, 134 countries have signed the Convention, of which 65 have ratified it. The first meeting of States Parties will take place in Maputo, Mozambique, from May 3 to 7. Delegates will review progress made so far and plan strategies to ensure continued progress towards the full implementation of the Convention, as well as to encourage all countries to sign and ratify it.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

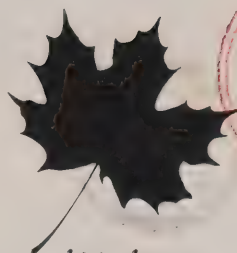
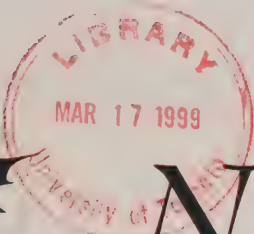
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International Trade  
Commerce international

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

February 28, 1999

(10:00 a.m. EST)

No. 45

## CANADA AND ISRAEL MARK SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF CIFTA

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today concluded a business development mission to Israel that was highlighted by meetings to review the two-year old Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA). The trip to Israel was the final portion of a Middle East trade mission that also brought the Minister and a delegation representing 46 Canadian businesses to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the West Bank and Gaza.

"We are ending our trade mission to the Middle East where our free trade efforts in the region began," said Mr. Marchi. "Our review of CIFTA with Israel has served to further enhance the already tremendously successful trade relationship between our countries."

The CIFTA is the only free trade agreement Canada has outside of the Americas.

Two-way trade between Canada and Israel reached a record \$650 million in 1998, an increase of 30 percent since the CIFTA was implemented. Sectors of interest for Canadian businesses in Israel include agri-food, biotechnology, building and construction, education, information technology and telecommunications.

On Thursday, Mr. Marchi met with Natan Sharansky, Israeli Minister for Trade and Industry, to review the operation of the CIFTA. The two ministers agreed to begin negotiations to expand free trade benefits over a wider range of products in the agri-food sector. The CIFTA Commission agreed to pursue the creation of a Canadian-Israeli Business Advisory Group to develop and promote the commercial advantages of the CIFTA for both corporate communities, including small- and medium-sized businesses. They also discussed a number of other areas, including customs procedures and rules of origin.

On Sunday, the Minister witnessed the signing of an agreement between Canadian Highways International Corporation (CHIC) and its partner Africa Israel Investment Ltd. to conclude the final financial arrangement to build the \$1.1 billion Cross-Israel Highway. This electronic toll highway will reduce the strain on Israel's existing



highways, while respecting environmental considerations. The deal establishes CHIC as a world leader in transportation infrastructure development and creates new jobs in Canada and Israel.

In Jerusalem today, the Minister signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cultural, Academic and Sports relations with Yitzhak Levy, Israeli Minister of Education, Culture and Sport. He then announced a Canadian studies grant of \$60 000 to contribute to Canadian studies in Israel. Mr. Marchi also signed a Protocol of Discussion on Communications with Limor Livnat, Israeli Minister of Communications, that will result in increased co-operation in the telecommunications sector.

Today in Tel Aviv, Mr. Marchi met with former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, head of the Peres Centre for Peace. They discussed the Centre's activities, including its projects in the West Bank and Gaza that encourage joint venture activities between Israeli and Palestinian businesses. Mr. Marchi also attended a meeting with the joint Palestinian-Israeli Environmental Management Committee, whose goal is to improve management of common environmental resources. As well, he cut the ribbon at a new Second Cup franchise, the fourth of this Canadian-owned franchise to be opened in Israel.

"This mission promoted and enhanced Canada's already strong commercial relations with Israel," said the Minister. "It has also reaffirmed the long standing cultural and social ties that bind our two countries."

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

March 1, 1999

(11:30 a.m. EST)

No. 46

## ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE CONVENTION ENTERS INTO FORCE

The Foreign Ministers of Austria, Canada, Mozambique, Norway and South Africa today welcomed the entry into force of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

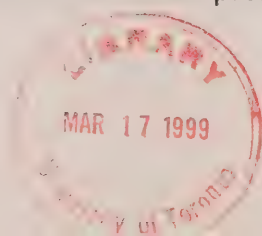
In addition to banning the manufacture, storage, transfer and use of anti-personnel (AP) mines, the Convention lays the foundations for international co-operation in mine action efforts. With its entry into force, the Convention has started the clock for States Parties to comply with their obligations: stockpiles must be destroyed within four years, and mined areas must be cleared within ten.

Opened for signature in Ottawa on December 3, 1997, the Convention has been among the fastest to enter into force of any such international agreement. To date, 134 countries have signed the Convention, and 65 have ratified. On February 24, Ukraine became the most recent state to sign the Convention.

Austria's Foreign Minister, Wolfgang Schüssel, declared: "Today, the total ban on anti-personnel mines has become a reality under international law. This encourages us in the pursuit of our common goal: no more mine victims. The same unprecedented international co-operation that produced the Convention within a year will allow us to rid the planet of the plight caused by these hidden killers."

Lloyd Axworthy, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, noted that the degree of international support for the ban is significant: "The way the Convention was developed broke the rules, and now the speed at which it has entered into force has broken the records. While we celebrate this achievement, we must remember that our objective remains: freedom from the terror of mines. Canada will continue to work with its partners to achieve this goal."

Knut Vollebæk, Norway's Foreign Minister, noted that this day marks a ground-breaking, remarkable achievement. "The emphasis must now shift from campaigning to implementation. The convention provides the international community with a framework for effectively resolving the tremendous humanitarian problems caused by AP

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landmines. We must now respond in a co-ordinated and integrated way, in order to free the world of these weapons within a finite period."

South Africa's Foreign Minister, Alfred Nzo, welcomed the entry into force of the Convention: "It will significantly contribute to eradicating this scourge from the African continent, thereby assisting the socio-economic advancement of its people who have been so gravely afflicted by the use of these deadly weapons."

Church bells will be ringing out in cities around the world today, in celebration of the occasion. Numerous activities have been arranged worldwide to commemorate the event. The next major milestone for the Convention will be the First Meeting of States Parties, to take place on May 3 to 7 in Maputo, Mozambique. In this forum, countries party to the Convention (as well as other interested states and non-governmental organizations) will review progress to date in implementing the Convention and set new goals for increased international co-operation.

Mozambican Foreign Minister Leonardo Simao noted that the Government and the people of Mozambique are honoured to host the First Meeting of States Parties and look forward to welcoming all participants. "It is our earnest hope that the Maputo Meeting will succeed in devising joint actions against anti-personnel mines, including assistance and rehabilitation of victims as well as raising international awareness of this issue."

The five Ministers called upon all countries to join them in becoming States Parties to the Convention, and pledged to work together to promote effective global mine action.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 1, 1999

(1:30 p.m. EST)

No. 47

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES ARCHITECT FOR NEW CANADIAN EMBASSY IN BERLIN

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the winning architectural design for the new Canadian Embassy to be built in Berlin, Germany. The winning team of the architectural competition for the Embassy is:

Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects  
Architects Gagnon, Letellier, Cyr  
Smith Carter Architects & Engineers Inc.  
in joint venture with  
Vogel Architect, Consulting Architect

"Germany is a major partner for Canada in Europe and it is important that we continue to strengthen our political, commercial and cultural ties," said Minister Axworthy. "This winning design will make an exciting, people-oriented statement about Canada's presence in the German capital. The site we have selected for Canada's new Embassy is on Leipziger Platz, which is in Berlin's new reunified and revitalized city centre. Our new Embassy will be highly accessible and visible to the public. Its location and design will serve Canadians well and will project a modern image of Canada to Berliners."

Thirty-one architectural firms from across Canada expressed interest in competing for the project, and five of them were invited to submit design concepts. The five submissions were evaluated by a panel of distinguished architects — from across Canada and from Germany. They were also assessed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) from a technical and program perspective.

Canada, like many countries, is building a new Embassy in Berlin due to Germany's decision, following its reunification, to reinstate Berlin as the seat of government. This will occur in the fall of 1999. Consequently, most of Canada's present Embassy operations in Bonn will be transferred to Berlin in the summer of 1999, where we will occupy interim facilities until the completion of the new Embassy.





The Embassy project provides an excellent opportunity to develop a partnership with the private sector. This will help ensure that the Government of Canada obtains the best value for money. In the coming months, DFAIT will be seeking a private-sector developer as partner for the project.

With the architectural competition phase complete, DFAIT is launching a competition for a private-sector partner to finance, construct and operate the facility. The selection process is expected to be completed in the summer of 1999, allowing for construction of the new Embassy to begin by the fall of 1999, with completion expected in 2001.

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A backgrounder on the vision for Canada's new Berlin Embassy is attached.

Developers in North America may order documents from the MERX Electronic Tendering System at 1-800-964-MERX. The solicitation number is DFAIT008.

Outside North America call (902) 629-3194.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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## **Backgrounder**

# **THE ARCHITECT'S VISION OF THE NEW CANADIAN EMBASSY IN BERLIN**

### **The Spirit of Canadian Architecture**

The architecture of the new Canadian Embassy balances the desire to express our national identity with a commitment to build within the clear urban design guidelines of the reconstruction of Berlin. The building projects an image that is at once bold yet warm and inviting, incorporating a rich palette of materials that reflects all the regions of Canada and provides a rich dynamic of interior and exterior space for the full range of Embassy functions as well as related business and cultural events and activities. A strong Canadian presence at the historical junction of Leipziger Platz and Potsdamer Platz fully engages Berlin's history and future, and the city's vitality and richness is the spirit and the vision of the design concept.

### **The Embassy as a Cultural Bridge**

The Canadian Embassy acts as a bridge between the dignified park-like setting of Leipziger Platz and the active mixed-use and transportation interchange of Potsdamer Platz. This enables the Embassy to be represented on the prestigious inner octagonal wall addressing Leipziger Platz and on the busy north-south street, Ebertstrasse. The Embassy site is designed to attract public interest and encourage pedestrian movement through the site between Leipziger Platz and Ebertstrasse.

A public route is developed through the site on the ground floor, inviting people living and working in the vicinity to move through the project from Leipziger Platz to Ebertstrasse and to engage with changing displays in the exhibition room and cultural and trade events hosted by DFAIT. The exhibition room, auditorium/screening room, and Information Centre, which are highly visible and conveniently accessible on the ground floor, create a very active public environment in combination with the other retail uses and the café.

The formal Embassy entrance is on Leipziger Platz. The building face is rendered in buff Manitoba Tyndall limestone and is composed to establish an appropriately monumental yet welcoming Canadian address and identity on Leipziger Platz. The ground floor of the Ebertstrasse elevation accommodates the entrance to the commercial office component at the north-west corner of the site at Voss Strasse. A highly visible media wall identifies the Information Centre and the Ebertstrasse entrance.



## Public and Reception Areas

The main entrance lobby is a great mall which is entered through the central bay of the facade on Leipziger Platz. On axis with the main entrance is the Timber Hall with the exhibition room on the ground floor. For numerous Embassy events, the exhibition room can be closed to the public and accessed exclusively and securely from the main entrance lobby.

The reception area, switchboard and Consular interview booth are located on the south side of the main entry for an unobstructed view into the Welcoming Water Garden. From this strategically placed position, Embassy staff commands views of the lobby and controls access to the main circular staircase leading to the first floor.

Secure access to the Embassy is developed on the south side of the site where a water garden has been incorporated to create an unexpected urban oasis. The introduction of water also maximizes ambient and reflected natural light, particularly on the ground and first floor spaces facing into the internal courtyard. A pedestrian passage to the main Embassy open zone elevator core can be opened to the sound of water in the garden. The reflections of light dancing on the ceiling surface creates a soothing environment as part of the Embassy entrance sequence. A large vertical North West Coast Native sculpture, a "Welcome Figure," is proposed to be sited dramatically emerging from the water and visible from the main reception lobby.

A decahedral room enclosed by a circular figure is the focus of the design, articulating the internal courtyard into a series of interior and exterior spaces. The ground floor exhibition room may be opened up entirely or selectively depending on the nature of the particular exhibition. On other occasions, this room may be used exclusively for Embassy functions within the open zone.

On the first floor, the Timber Hall accommodates a first-class conference room with state-of-the-art information and communications technology, including video-conferencing capabilities, which can be used as a dramatic venue for Embassy events. For larger events, the multipurpose room, dining room, garden court, and the Timber Hall may be used together to produce a remarkable set of interconnected venues.

The Timber Hall is opened to the sky by a lightly framed roofing and glazed skylight system. The inner walls are lined with Douglas fir from British Columbia. The hardwood floors are clear maple from Quebec. The outer exterior cladding is zinc from Germany. The grand curved stairway has treads and risers made of limestone from Ontario and the links on the second and third floors are clad in translucent glass in a light steel frame. This outer layer creates a subtle shield to the development on Property 1 (Deutsches Reisburo) respecting the courtyard setback.



The formal dining room, located on the first floor, is contained as a pavilion within a garden. The design of the room and garden integrates the warm interior with the landscape, using a natural material palette of Ontario beech and Quebec maple, as well as furnishings that are formal, comfortable and inviting to convey a sense of Canadian hospitality and generosity.

The sixth floor of the Canadian Embassy's Ebertstrasse wing accommodates the Ambassador and senior political staff. These offices have access to a controlled reception garden recessed roof terrace with views to the Tiergarten, Reichstag and Brandenburg Gates, as well as to Sony Plaza and Potsdamer Platz. White flowering azaleas are proposed within this protected terrace, creating a serene venue for special events. The space, while open to the sky, is enclosed by glass walls to extend the view from the interior reception area. The terrace with a mass of mounded evergreen and white flowering ground-cover azaleas and a water garden will draw the eye to the panoramic view of the Reichstag and the trees of the Tiergarten to the north.



# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 4, 1999

(10:15 a.m. EST)

No. 48

## AXWORTHY MEETS WITH HUMAN RIGHTS NGOs

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today met with representatives of Canadian human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to discuss with them Canada's approach at the upcoming session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (CHR) in Geneva, from March 22 to April 30, 1999. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has held these comprehensive consultations annually since 1988.

"Last year marked the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights," noted Mr. Axworthy. "We remarked often during that year that it was an opportunity for reflection and renewal of our commitment to the Declaration. It was also an opportunity to consider some of the new challenges that face us as we approach the coming millennium — issues such as the threats to human rights posed by misuse of the Internet. On these and other themes, our ongoing dialogue with NGO partners continues to be a vital factor in the development of Canadian foreign policy."

The Minister pointed to the adoption of the Statute of the International Criminal Court and the adoption by the UN General Assembly of the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders as among the most significant human rights achievements of the 1998 anniversary year.

Mr. Axworthy noted some of the other human rights challenges facing Canada and the international community. He highlighted children's rights, freedom of religion and belief, and freedom of the media as issues requiring particular attention. He also stressed the need to strengthen and reform the UN Commission on Human Rights in order to make it more efficient and effective.

At this year's CHR session, Canada's continued leadership on several traditional areas of concern will include sponsoring resolutions on: the situation in Rwanda; renewal of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression; impunity; violence against women; and the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Canada will also co-sponsor a resolution on freedom of religion.



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Mr. Axworthy remarked that Canada would be making a particular effort to integrate human rights concerns into its work on the UN Security Council. On February 12, 1999, the Minister presided over a Canadian-initiated Council discussion on the issue of the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

"Respect for human rights is the foundation of human security," stated the Minister. "We have to work strategically to build on the incremental progress achieved over the past few years in inserting human rights into Council deliberations."

Mr. Axworthy took the occasion to announce that *For the Record 1998*, a global human rights report produced by the NGO Human Rights Internet in partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, is now available on the Internet. This is the second annual edition of the publication, which guides the user through a vast array of UN human rights documentation, conveniently arranged by country and theme. A print version of this document will be available shortly through Human Rights Internet. Meanwhile the electronic version may be accessed at <http://www.hri.ca/fortherecord1998>.

- 30 -

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International Trade  
Commerce international

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 8, 1999

(12:00 p.m. EST)

No. 49

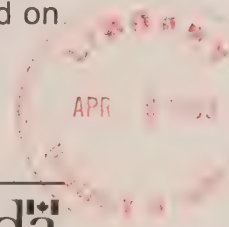
## MARCHI WELCOMES NEW DATA ON BUSINESSWOMEN EXPORTERS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today welcomed the results of a new report, *Beyond Borders — Canadian Businesswomen in International Trade*, which shows that Canadian businesswomen are becoming a new force in export markets. The report was the focus of a teleconference linking businesswomen at International Women's Day events in nine Canadian cities as well as Los Angeles, Buenos Aires and London, England. It was produced by the Trade Research Coalition (TRC), a public-/private-sector consortium of individuals and organizations set up by the Minister to study the international trade activities of Canadian businesswomen and to recommend ways of expanding their participation in the export market.

"We knew that women-led SMEs [small and medium-sized enterprises] had become a significant force in the domestic Canadian economy," said Mr. Marchi, "and we had good data on the rapid rate at which they were starting new businesses and creating new jobs. But until this report was done, we didn't know much about their international activities."

It is well documented that Canadian women are starting new businesses at twice the rate of firms in general, and that one third of self-employed entrepreneurs in Canada are now women. However, very little data existed on their export activities. The TRC study addressed this information gap by drawing on 254 survey responses by Canadian businesswomen to create a profile of women-led, export-oriented SMEs. The report reveals that women-led businesses are active exporters. Seventy-six percent of the exporting companies surveyed are product-based, and 22 percent are services companies. They earn more than 40 percent of their revenues from export sales, and they are exporting all over the world. The study also shows that most women exporters enter foreign markets fairly quickly, usually within two years of start-up.

"The *Beyond Borders* report tells us that Canadian businesswomen are achieving real success in the export marketplace," said Mr. Marchi. "I see great potential to build on this success and I look forward to continuing to work with the Trade Research



Coalition on ways to promote the interests of Canada's businesswomen in world markets."

The Canadian TRC study, and a parallel study from the United States, will form the basis for policy discussions and strategic planning at the Canada-U.S. Businesswomen's Trade Summit, to be hosted by Canada in Toronto in May 1999.

The TRC Report is available at the following Web site:  
<http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/businesswomen/menu-e.asp>

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

March 8, 1999

(3:15 p.m. EST)

No. 50

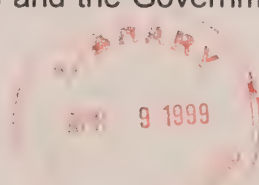
## AXWORTHY TO SEND SPECIAL ENVOY TO ASSESS SITUATION IN SIERRA LEONE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today named David Pratt, Member of Parliament for Nepean-Carleton, special envoy for Sierra Leone. Mr. Pratt will travel to New York on March 12 for discussions with UN and other officials on efforts to restore peace and stability in Sierra Leone. He then plans to travel to Freetown, Sierra Leone, and Conakry, Guinea, later this month to assess the political, humanitarian and security situation in Sierra Leone.

"Canada remains concerned about the atrocities committed upon civilians, including women and children, by the rebel groups," said Mr. Axworthy. "These visits will give Mr. Pratt the opportunity to see first-hand how Canada can best support efforts to rebuild peace and stability, and provide humanitarian assistance in Sierra Leone. We are exploring the means for providing additional support to civilians, particularly children."

In New York Mr. Pratt will meet with Francis Okello, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sierra Leone, and with Fode M. Dabor, Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Sierra Leone, as well as other official representatives. This visit is in preparation for the mission to West Africa, which will aid Mr. Pratt in making recommendations to the Minister before Mr. Axworthy participates in the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) in London on April 29 and 30. Sierra Leone is one of the three countries under review by the CMAG, which has a mandate to recommend collective Commonwealth responses to serious or persistent violations of the principles contained in the Harare Declaration on human rights and democracy.

Mr. Axworthy held discussions with his counterparts concerning the conflict in Sierra Leone during his recent visit to Ghana and Nigeria. Both countries are troop contributors to the Military Observer Group of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOMOG). During his visit, Mr. Axworthy announced Canada's contribution of \$1 million for non-lethal support to ECOMOG troops. The UN has chosen ECOMOG as its peacekeeping partner in the region, and has called upon member states for assistance to ECOMOG and the Government of Sierra Leone. As



a Security Council member, Canada will also support the extension of the UN Observer Mission in Sierra Leone (UNOMSIL), which is due for renewal later this week. In addition to monitoring human rights, UNOMSIL has a mandate to promote a political settlement to the Sierra Leone conflict.

"We continue to support the democratically elected Government of Sierra Leone and call for an immediate cessation of the fighting," said Mr. Axworthy. "We urge that all parties allow full and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance, and fully respect international humanitarian and human rights law."

The Minister's announcement was made on Commonwealth Day, and reflects Canada's ongoing commitment to Sierra Leone within CMAG and at the Security Council.

- 30 -

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International Trade  
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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

March 9, 1999

(1:15 p.m. EST)

No. 51

## MARCHI ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS TO EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced the re-appointments of Robert G. Wright and Pierre MacDonald, and the appointment of Raymond C. Setlakwe to the Board of Directors of the Export Development Corporation (EDC).

The appointments are effective immediately.

EDC is the only Canadian financial institution devoted exclusively to providing trade finance services in support of Canadian exporters and investors in up to 200 countries. Founded in 1944, EDC is a Crown corporation that operates as a commercial financial institution.

- 30 -

Biographical notes are attached.

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## Backgrounder

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

**Pierre MacDonald** is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of MacD Consult Inc., a group of consultants in international finance and marketing. He is also Chairman of the board of Eurocopter Canada Ltd., Vice-Chairman of the board of Eco-Ads International, and a director of several large Canadian firms. Previously, Mr. MacDonald was Senior Vice-President of the Bank of Montreal in charge of Eastern Canada. In 1985 he was elected to the Quebec National Assembly, where he served as Minister of External Trade and Technology.

**Raymond C. Setlakwe** is President and Chief Executive Officer of A. Setlakwe Ltée, a Thetford Mines-based department store founded in 1904 with 17 outlets throughout Quebec. He is also President and Chief Executive Officer of Saint-Hilaire Inc., an import business specializing in ready-to-wear men's and women's clothing from Europe, Asia and the United States. Mr. Setlakwe is a member of the board of Sintra, Unindal, and the Conseil québécois du commerce de détail, and has served as a member of the board of Hydro-Québec.

**Robert G. Wright** has served as Deputy Minister for International Trade since December 1995. Mr. Wright began his career with the federal government in 1971 as a trade policy officer in the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In the same department, he served as Chief of the Western Europe Division and Director of the Pacific Trade Relations Division. In the Department of External Affairs and International Trade, he has served as: Director of the GATT Division, Minister (Economic) and Deputy of the Canadian delegation to the Uruguay Round in Geneva; and Director-General of the U.S. Trade and Economic Policy Bureau. Prior to being appointed Deputy Minister, he was Minister (Economic) at the Canadian Embassy in Washington.



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# News Release

[www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca)

March 9, 1999

(2:15 p.m. EST)

No. 52

## MARCHI ANNOUNCES FIRST-EVER YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS MISSION

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced that he will be leading a young entrepreneurs partnering mission to northern California April 6 to 8. This will be the first trade mission to focus exclusively on Canadian innovators who are playing a leading role in knowledge-based industries.

"We will be taking our best and brightest high-tech entrepreneurs and introducing them to potential U.S. business partners," said Mr. Marchi. "A major focus of this mission is to promote strategic alliances between Canadian companies and those in San Francisco and the Silicon Valley."

Approximately 50 young entrepreneurs from across Canada in the fields of animation, environmental technologies and hardware and software technologies for the Internet will accompany Minister Marchi to northern California.

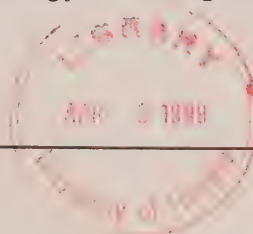
"I'm enthusiastic at the prospect of leading a team of young Canadians who know what they want and are prepared to go for it," said Mr. Marchi.

The mission will also include a separate program showcasing animation education in Canada.

With revenues in 1997 of \$65.6 billion, Canada's information and communications technology industry has been growing by 9.3 percent per year since 1990. Canadian high-tech products have won worldwide recognition for their quality and innovation.

The San Francisco Bay Area, which includes Silicon Valley, is one of the premier centres of the world's knowledge-based industry and is home to 7000 high-tech companies representing a combined market value of US\$450 billion.

"Canadian companies have a great deal to offer the Bay Area in terms of both trade and investment," Mr. Marchi said. "Our high technology is cutting-edge and offers great value to potential U.S. partners."



Canadian companies interested in participating may contact the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade at (613) 995-2520; fax (613) 996-3406; or visit our Web site (<http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/section4/missions/california>). The deadline for mission applications is March 18.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

March 9, 1999

(7:40 p.m. EST)

No. 53

The Government of Canada has decided not to accept the invitation of the Government of France to participate in a Ministerial meeting on development and culture, to be held in Paris on March 10 on the margins of the Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank.

Canada has taken this decision with regret due to the fact that France, without consultation, issued a direct invitation to the Government of Quebec to attend a meeting of Ministers of sovereign states. Only the Government of Canada has the right to decide on the presence and representation of Canada and its constituent parts in our relations with other sovereign states.

This decision by the Government of Canada does not put in question the rules governing La Francophonie, or the direct and privileged relations that have been established over the years between France and Quebec with the agreement of the Government of Canada. However, this practice cannot be extended to any other international context without the express consent of the Government of Canada.

It would be regrettable if the balance in the relationship among Paris, Ottawa and Quebec were jeopardized by a lack of consultation.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 10, 1999

No. 54

## AXWORTHY TO VISIT NORAD

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he will make his first visit to the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) in Colorado Springs on March 11, 1999.

"NORAD is the cornerstone of the bilateral security defence partnership between Canada and the United States and, as such, it plays a vital role in ensuring North America's defence," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada remains committed to this alliance as it adapts to face the challenges of the next decade and beyond."

The visit will enable the Minister to obtain a first-hand sense of how this unique binational command carries out its missions.

NORAD is responsible for the monitoring of human-made objects in space, and providing warning and control of Canadian and U.S. airspace. The aerospace warning mission includes the detection, verification and warning of attack against North America whether by aircraft, missiles or space vehicles. The aerospace control mission consists of providing surveillance and control of the airspace of Canada and the United States. These missions have evolved over the 40 years of NORAD's existence. The binational command remains a vital part of North American defence.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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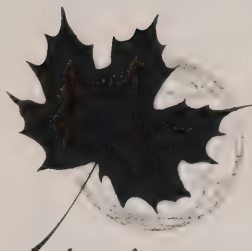
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# News Release

[www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca](http://www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca)

March 11, 1999

(1:00 p.m. EST)

No. 55

## STUDY SHOWS CANADA HAS LOWEST BUSINESS COSTS AMONG G-7 COUNTRIES

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi said today that a new study, *The Competitive Alternatives: A Comparison of Business Costs in North America, Europe and Japan*, by the international consulting firm KPMG, removes any remaining myths that Canada is a high-cost business location.

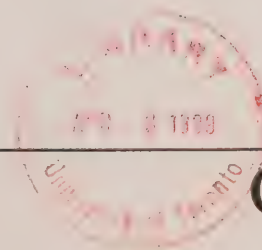
"Any business leader thinking about expansion — especially in the North American market — should take a serious look at this report," said Mr. Marchi. "It provides hard facts to show there are clear cost advantages to setting up or expanding an international business in Canada."

The report contains comparative data on typical costs of doing business in eight countries (the G-7 plus Austria) for nine mainstream industrial sectors, in both manufacturing and service industries. Cost factors include labour, real estate, transportation, utilities, interest and taxes. The research found that overall Canadian costs are consistently among the lowest, while in leading-edge, high value-added sectors such as software, the Canadian advantage is quite significant.

With corporate support from the Royal Bank of Canada, Ontario Power Generation and Bell Canada, the study was also sponsored by economic development agencies from every part of Canada, as well as the Government of Austria. It was released today at the Royal Bank of Canada in Ottawa, which hosted the event.

"This study shows the outstanding cost advantage that Canada offers to foreign investors," said Chief Economist of the Royal Bank John McCallum. "Canada's cost advantage compared with the U.S. is robust."

"Our report offers a wealth of independently developed business cost information," said KPMG Project Director Stuart MacKay. "The evidence that Canada offers the lowest-cost alternative clearly refutes many of the myths that exist in the minds of decision makers and investors in other countries."



Twenty-five cities across Canada are included in the study; consistently, they all ranked among the lowest-cost locations when compared with cities in the United States, Europe and Japan.

A summary of the KPMG study is at: <<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/investcan>>.

- 30 -

A backgrounder on the study is attached.

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KPMG (Toronto)  
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## Backgrounder

### KPMG STUDY: COMPARISON OF BUSINESS COSTS

In October 1997, KPMG released a study that showed Canada had the lowest costs of doing business when compared with the United States and several European countries. Since then KPMG has undertaken further research on the international business environment and has produced a new study that broadens the industrial focus and extends the geographical focus to include Japan. This year's study, entitled *The Competitive Alternatives: A Comparison of Business Costs in North America, Europe and Japan*, identifies and compares the major cost factors that influence the site location decisions of foreign investors.

Eight countries — the G-7 and Austria — and nine industry sectors are analysed. Overall, Canadian locations have a 7.8 percent cost advantage over comparative locations in the United States. Each of the 25 Canadian cities in the study shows lower costs of operating a comparable business than all of the U.S. cities studied.

Canada leads all the countries studied in important cost components such as labour and electricity and features the lowest overall cost in eight of the nine industries studied. Canada is first in electronics, medical devices, metal fabrication, pharmaceuticals, plastic products, telecommunications equipment, packaged software, and advanced software, and is a close second in food processing.

This year's study was supported by a number of sponsors, including the Royal Bank of Canada, Bell Canada, Ontario Power Generation, the Government of Austria and many provincial, regional and local economic development agencies in Canada.

This study is important because it models real costs in actual business situations. It presents a scorecard for international cost comparisons now and offers a historical benchmark for the future. The KPMG study will function as an international scorecard that will grow each year.

#### Key Findings

The KPMG study illustrates Canada's favourable position as the lowest-cost business location when compared with other countries.

*By country:* Canada is the lowest-cost country, as follows (index of U.S.=100):

Country	Cost Index	Canada's % Advantage
Canada	92.2	—
United Kingdom	94.8	2.7
United States	100.0	7.8
Austria, France, Italy	104.0	11.5
Germany	108.0	14.6
Japan	121.9	24.4

*By industry sector:* Canada ranks at the top in eight of the sectors and is a close second in the ninth, as shown below (index of U.S.=100):

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Cost Index for Canada</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Electronics	91.5	1
Food Processing	94.3	2 (U.K. is no. 1)
Medical Devices	92.4	1
Metal Fabrication	92.1	1
Pharmaceuticals	93.4	1
Plastic Products	92.2	1
Telecom Equipment	94.9	1
Packaged Software	86.0	1
Advanced Software	85.5	1
Overall	92.2	1

Other significant findings include the following:

- Over the nine sectors examined, costs in Canada are 7.8 percent below the U.S. average; the United Kingdom comes second with a 5.2 percent cost advantage over the United States.
- Canada's overall labour costs are the lowest in all of the countries studied. Compared with the United States, for example, the cost of Canadian labour is 32 percent less.
- Canada offers the most cost-competitive locations for technology- and capital-intensive industries.
- In manufacturing, Canada has a 7 percent advantage over the United States.
- In the software industries, the Canadian cost advantage is 14.3 percent. (On this basis, running a 110-employee software firm in Canada instead of the United States will save the average company about US\$1.6 million a year.)

### **Other Observations and Conclusions**

- Canada has a clear cost advantage in business sectors requiring a highly skilled labour force or where research and development constitutes a significant part of business.
- Canada has a cost advantage as long as the dollar stays below US\$0.79.
- Exchange rates no longer affect the relative competitiveness of the European countries in the study because of the introduction of the euro in January 1999.
- The 25 Canadian cities in the study ranked consistently among the lowest-cost locations in all eight countries. Every Canadian city was less expensive than the U.S. cities studied.
- Canada's position as the lowest-cost business investment alternative of the eight countries assessed, combined with its United Nations designation as the best place in the world to live, creates a very positive economic and social outlook for Canadians and an attractive climate for foreign investors.



# News Release

March 12, 1999

(3:00 p.m. EST)

No. 56

## CANADA WINS WTO PANEL WITH BRAZIL

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Industry Minister John Manley announced today that Canada scored an important victory at the World Trade Organization (WTO) in a long-standing trade dispute with Brazil.

The WTO has ruled in Canada's favour on eight of ten points, and has declared that PROEX, a Brazilian export program, is a prohibited export subsidy that must be withdrawn without delay.

The WTO ruled that Brazil did not meet conditions that grant developing nations more time than developed nations to remove prohibited export subsidies such as PROEX. The harmful effects of PROEX have been most evident in the aerospace sector. Under the program, foreign purchasers of Brazilian exports benefit from payments that reduce financing costs to levels that undercut the market.

"Through more than two years of consultations with Brazil, Canada tried to solve this dispute through negotiations," said Mr. Marchi. "Today's WTO ruling confirms Canada's assertion that PROEX is an illegal export subsidy that must be withdrawn immediately. This ruling will remove a serious distortion from the regional aircraft market that threatened jobs in Canada's vitally important aerospace sector."

A separate panel found all but two Canadian measures to be consistent with WTO rules. These are: Canada Account debt financing for regional aircraft since 1995, and Technology Partnerships Canada (TPC) assistance to the regional aircraft industry.

"Canada Account debt financing for regional aircraft has only involved two transactions since 1995, and we continue to believe that all Canada Account financing has complied with WTO requirements," said Minister Marchi. "If this ruling stands, however, it will not have a significant effect on Canada Account operations."

Concerning the ruling on TPC assistance to the aerospace sector, Minister Manley noted that the panel report was narrow in scope and limited to the application of TPC to regional aircraft. It was not critical of TPC's overall structure.





"No one is saying that support for research and development is prohibited under WTO rules," said Minister Manley. "The Canadian government will continue to support research and development and to encourage innovation and excellence in Canadian industry, while respecting our international obligations."

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Backgrounders are attached.

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## Backgrounder

### WHY THESE WTO RULINGS ARE GOOD FOR CANADA

- Canada today won its long-standing WTO case against Brazil's PROEX program.
- It was a strong unequivocal win which will protect thousands of Canadian jobs across the country and ensure that the market for regional aircraft is not distorted by illegal Brazilian subsidies. The WTO has ruled:
  - PROEX is an illegal export subsidy;
  - Brazil does not meet the conditions that can give developing countries until 2003 to remove offending programs. PROEX must be withdrawn *without delay*;
  - The Export Development Corporation Corporate Account is not a subsidy;
  - The Canada Account, as a program, is not a subsidy;
  - The Defence Industry Productivity Program is not an export subsidy;
  - The Canada-Quebec Subsidiary Agreement is not a subsidy;
  - Investissement Quebec is not a subsidy;
  - Ontario's sale of de Havilland to Bombardier was not a subsidy;
  - Specific aspects of two Canadian programs — Canada Account support for regional aircraft since 1995 and Technology Partnerships Canada — were found to be inconsistent with WTO rules, *but only so far as they apply to the regional aircraft market, and the integrity and future of both programs is not in question.*
- The Government of Canada remains committed to ensuring that leading-edge research and development is supported in Canada.





## Backgrounder

### The Stakes: Canada's Aerospace Industry

- The Canadian aerospace sector comprises more than 400 companies and employs approximately 60 000 people across Canada; it exceeded \$15 billion in sales in 1998.
- The Canadian aerospace industry influences the output and performance of many other sectors of the Canadian economy. Leading aerospace firms work with numerous suppliers and sub-contractors across Canada in the production of complete aircraft, engines, structural components, repair and overhaul, satellites, flight simulators and many other products.
- Aerospace is a vitally important incubator of advanced technologies, bringing together a critical mass of Canadian firms that are helping to build a future economy based on high-technology, value-added products. The sector spends about \$880 million a year on research and development.
- Canada is among only a handful of nations with an advanced, diversified aerospace sector. The range of design and manufacturing expertise in Canada is comparable to that of many larger economies.
- Canada has the sixth-largest share in global aerospace markets, competing with many larger economies such as the United States, France, Germany and Japan.

### Chronology of the Canada–Brazil Aerospace Dispute

- **June 1996:** Canada first expresses concerns about the use of PROEX in the aerospace sector, and requests consultations.
- **July 1996:** Consultations on PROEX take place in Geneva under WTO Subsidies Agreement.
- **October 1996:** Canada sends letter asking the WTO to establish a dispute settlement panel.
- **October 1996:** Brazilian Foreign Minister Lampreia visits Canada, meets Minister for International Trade.
- **October 1996:** Canada withdraws request for WTO panel pending further negotiations.
- **November 1996:** Consultations on PROEX took place with Brazil in Geneva.

- **November 1996:** Consultations on PROEX took place with Brazil in Brasilia.
- **December 1996 to May 1997:** Exchange of draft proposals for a bilateral agreement.
- **March 1997:** Brazil requests WTO consultations on programs that support Canadian industry.
- **April 1997:** Consultations in Geneva on Canadian programs.
- **November 1997:** Further discussions between the Canadian and Brazilian governments.
- **January 16, 1998:** Prime Minister Chrétien visits Brazil on Team Canada, speaks to President Cardoso about PROEX. They agree to appoint special envoys.
- **January 29, 1998:** Canada and Brazil appoint special envoys.
- **May 7, 1998:** Envoys deliver recommendations to Prime Minister Chrétien and President Cardoso.
- **June 8-9, 1998:** Consultations in Brasilia.
- **June 25-26, 1998:** Consultations in Washington, D.C.
- **July 10, 1998:** Canada informs WTO of intention to request dispute settlement panel.
- **October 22, 1998:** WTO panels on PROEX and on Canadian measures are struck.
- **February 17, 1999:** WTO delivers interim reports on both panels to parties involved (Canada and Brazil).
- **March 12, 1999:** WTO delivers final reports on PROEX and Canadian measures to parties involved.
- **End of March 1999:** WTO to publish panel reports. Deadline for appeals is 30 days later.

## FLOW CHART OF A TYPICAL WTO TRADE DISPUTE

(Time periods for disputes involving exports subsidies is halved)

### Request for Consultations

If responding party does not reply within 10 days, or if it does not enter into consultations within 30 days, or at period mutually agreed, the complaining party can request the establishment of a panel (other WTO Members with substantial trade interest have 10 days to join the consultations).

### Consultations

60 days

### Complaining State May Request Panel

The complaining State may request a panel at any time after 60 days from the date the request is received by the other State, provided consultations have not resolved the issue.

### Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) Establishes Panel

(usually within 10-30 days)

### Panel's Terms of Reference

### Composition of the Panel

(within 20 days of the establishment of the panel)

### Panel Examination

Unless otherwise agreed, this should not exceed 6 months from composition of the panel.

For cases on prohibited subsidies, it should not exceed 3 months

(includes circulation of interim report within 13 to 22 weeks).

### Final Panel Report Circulated to Members and DSB

(report circulated to disputing parties a few weeks in advance)

### DSB Adopts Panel Report

(not before 20 days of circulation)



**Appeal to Appellate Body**

(within 60 days of panel  
report)

**Appellate Review**

(60 or 90 days)

**DSB Adopts Appellate Report**

(within 30 days of report)

**DSB Monitors Implementation of Adopted  
Panel/Appellate Body Recommendations**

Within 30 days of adoption, the responding party must inform the  
DSB of its intentions regarding the implementation of the  
recommendations.

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 16, 1999

(5:10 p.m. EST)

No. 57

## AXWORTHY CONDEMNS MURDER OF CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCATE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy expressed his shock today at the brutal murder of Rosemary Nelson in Northern Ireland and condemned its perpetrators. "We extend our sincerest condolences to Ms. Nelson's colleagues, friends and family, especially her three children who have been the most cruelly affected by this savage act," said Mr. Axworthy.

Responsibility for the assassination has been claimed by a dissident Unionist group opposed to the peace process in Northern Ireland. Ms. Nelson was a lawyer and advocate for the civil rights of Catholic communities.

Minister Axworthy said the evident attempt by the terrorists to provoke sectarian reprisals must not be allowed to undo the work of all the democratic parties who achieved the Good Friday Agreement nearly a year ago. The agreement was endorsed last May by a majority of voters who subsequently elected a new legislative assembly.

"The peace process is too important to the people of Northern Ireland to be allowed to fail," said Mr. Axworthy. "I know I speak for the vast majority of Canadians, many of whom have deep roots in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, in condemning absolutely this outrageous incident of sectarian violence."

He urged all parties to refrain from retaliation. "The restraint that followed the atrocity at Omagh last summer gave hope that the will of the vast majority of people in Northern Ireland would be respected. It is vital that this desire for peace be upheld once more, so as to isolate the perpetrators of this cynical murder."

Mr. Axworthy emphasized the clear importance of bringing to justice as soon as possible those responsible for Ms. Nelson's murder.

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# News Release

March 17, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EST)

No. 58

## CANADA ENCOURAGES BETTER INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES IN WORLD TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau, and Environment Minister Christine Stewart today affirmed Canada's position in favour of a more integrated approach to trade, environment and development in the ongoing work of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other international organizations in the lead-up to the next international trade negotiations by the WTO.

Canada is participating in the first-ever High Level Symposia on Trade and Environment, and on Trade and Development taking place from March 15 to 18 in Geneva, Switzerland. The Symposia bring together NGOs, industry representatives, academics and senior government officials to discuss the interrelationship of trade, environment and development issues. The Symposia provide Canada with a unique opportunity to further explore the role of environment and development issues in the formulation of trade policy.

"The federal government has already launched in-depth consultations with Canadians on Canada's position at the next set of WTO negotiations," said Minister Marchi. "The Symposia in Geneva complement our domestic consultations and will help shape Canada's position in the upcoming WTO negotiations."

"Canada recognizes that developing countries have a large stake in a well-functioning international trading system," added Minister Marleau. "This system must work in ways that ensure the benefits of globalization are shared equitably among nations, developed and developing. The Symposia will improve our collective understanding of how to ensure that larger economic opportunities provided through increased trade are environmentally sound and also contribute effectively toward poverty reduction."

"Environmental issues are increasingly global in scope and require creative solutions," said Minister Stewart. "We need to ensure that trade agreements respect the sovereign right of governments to set environmental policy, while supporting trade and development goals."



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The Ministers noted that sustainable development is a key objective set out in the preamble of the WTO and called for greater transparency, both domestically and internationally, in moving forward on trade negotiations. To further this goal, Canada highlighted some issues at the Geneva conference which require further clarification and international action. These include eco-labelling, the relationship between WTO rules and multilateral environmental agreements, and environmental review of upcoming WTO negotiations.

Canada's statements and discussion papers presented at the Symposiums are available to media representatives from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Along with other Symposium documents and proceedings, they are also available on the WTO's Web site: <<http://www.wto.org>>.

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<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



# News Release

March 17, 1999

(5:00 p.m. EST)

No. 59

## GOVERNMENT TO CONSULT INDUSTRY, PROVINCES ON WTO REPORT ON DAIRY EXPORTS

Canada has received a report from a World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute settlement panel on certain Canadian dairy export pricing practices, Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief and International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi said today.

"The panel report deals only with some dairy exports and has no effect on Canada's domestic supply management system," said Mr. Vanclief. "Canada is committed to supply management and will continue to defend its dairy industry."

Mr. Marchi said, "The federal government has worked closely with the industry and provinces to present Canada's case to the dispute settlement panel. We will continue to work closely with the industry and provinces to evaluate the report and options for response, including the option to appeal."

Canadian dairy farmers price their milk according to its end use through a classified pricing system. The United States and New Zealand argued that parts of the classified pricing system constitute an export subsidy. Canada argues that they are not an export subsidy.

The panel report also recommends changes in the administration of Canada's Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) for fluid milk. The report did not challenge Canada's right to limit fluid milk imports through a TRQ. However, the panel found that the TRQ should be open to both commercial imports and to cross-border shoppers. Canada is also consulting with the industry and provinces on options for response to this aspect of the panel report, including a possible appeal.

If there is an appeal, the process could take until mid-summer, after which the WTO would be in a position to adopt a final report.

"Canada is committed to a rules-based approach to international trade," said Mr. Marchi. "Whatever the final outcome, Canada will continue to respect its international obligations."

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International Trade's Internet site:  
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# News Release

March 18, 1999

(11:00 a.m. EST)

No. 60

## **CANADA ENTERS THE NEW MILLENNIUM: TOWARD A CHOICE POSITION WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL FRANCOPHONIE**

Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau used the ceremony commemorating the Journée internationale de la Francophonie to unveil the initiatives the government plans to launch between now and the Moncton Summit.

"With the Moncton Summit, next September, Canada is preparing for a notable transition to the next millennium, a transition that will help enlarge our place in La Francophonie, for the benefit of both our country and our youth," said Minister Marleau this morning. She was speaking to the hundreds of guests gathered at the Canadian Museum of Civilization, in Hull, to participate in the celebrations for the Journée internationale de la Francophonie. Special guests included Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps, Senator Jean-Robert Gauthier and several leaders of francophone communities in Canada.

The Eighth Summit of La Francophonie, which will take place in Moncton, September 3 to 5, will focus on youth. In this context, Minister Marleau has announced a series of related initiatives leading to the Summit.

The Canadian government has just embarked on a series of consultations with youth to gather information on matters of concern to them. The consultations will take place across Canada between now and the end of April. "After listening to what young people have to say, we will be in a better position to speak on their behalf," said Minister Marleau.

During the next few months, the government will help organize several activities aimed at reinforcing the links between the countries of La Francophonie. For example:

- the Forum francophone des affaires, to be held in Bathurst, June 13 to 16, will provide Canadian and foreign business community with an opportunity to establish new links and to explore new market opportunities in Francophonie countries;



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- members of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie, will meet in Ottawa, July 3 to 8;
- the Grand Train de la Francophonie, sponsored by Richelieu International in co-operation with Via Rail and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, will leave Vancouver to cross the country to Moncton, arriving on the eve of the Summit; and
- mayors of francophone municipalities throughout the world will gather in Quebec City, in September.

The celebrations surrounding the Journée internationale de la Francophonie commemorated the anniversary of the foundation of the Agence de la Francophonie in Niamey, Niger, in 1970. The high point of this event was the presentation of medals of the Canadian section of the Ordre de la Pléiade de l'Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie. Minister Marleau was made commander of the Order. The Prix de la Francophonie internationale and the Prix de la Francophonie nationale were also awarded, many to young students.

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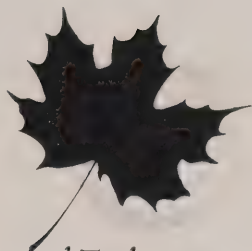
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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>





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Commerce internationale

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 19, 1999

(3:50 p.m. EST)

No. 61

## CANADA REQUESTS WTO CONSULTATIONS IN U.S. CASE AGAINST CANADIAN BEEF CATTLE

Canada today requested World Trade Organization (WTO) consultations with the United States over a U.S. countervail investigation of imports of Canadian cattle.

"Canada does not believe that the U.S. Department of Commerce had sufficient grounds to initiate this investigation," said International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi. "Many of the programs cited by U.S. cattle producers have already been investigated and found to be consistent with international trade rules. Canada has therefore requested these consultations to ensure that the United States abides by its international obligations."

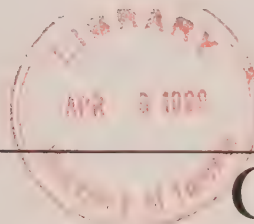
"This investigation will cost our industry and government time and resources to prove once again that Canada and Canadian cattle producers are meeting their international trade obligations," said Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vancilief. "We would be doing a lot more for cattle producers on both sides of the border if that time and those resources were devoted to developing markets and generating increased returns for producers from the marketplace."

The Ministers added that although the request for WTO consultations will not bring an end to the U.S. action, it sends a strong signal that Canada continues to insist that the United States strictly meet its international obligations in conducting this investigation.

Parallel to the request for WTO consultations, the Government of Canada and the Canadian cattle industry will continue to work together to present the strongest possible case against the U.S. industry allegations.

The request for consultations gives the United States 30 days to justify its actions, after which Canada could request a WTO panel to resolve the issue.

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# News Release

March 20, 1999

(4:15 p.m. EST)

No. 62

## CANADA PREPARES FOR NATO ACTION IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and National Defence Minister Art Eggleton today announced that all Kosovo Verification Mission personnel, including 63 Canadians, have evacuated from Kosovo. They also congratulated the Canadian personnel concerned for their fine work under difficult circumstances.

"We are pleased that the Canadian members of the verification team have evacuated safely from Kosovo and congratulate them for the outstanding contribution that they have made over the last several months," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada has maintained its preference for a negotiated, peaceful settlement to this crisis, and President Milosevic has been given every opportunity to co-operate. He must now take full responsibility for the consequences of not doing so."

Canada currently has approximately 130 Canadian Forces personnel and six CF-18 fighter aircraft in Aviano, Italy. All CF-18s are deployed with air-to-air missiles and precision guided munitions for a ground attack role.

"Canadian CF-18s from our Air Task Group in Aviano are prepared to join in NATO action in order to end the hostilities in Kosovo and the suffering of its people," said Mr. Eggleton.

Peace negotiations have failed to produce a diplomatic resolution to the crisis due to the intransigence of the Yugoslav delegation. During both rounds of recent negotiations in Rambouillet and Paris, the Yugoslav authorities were reminded that NATO remained ready to act to ensure compliance with the demands of the international community, as expressed in several UN Security Council resolutions. Deployments by the Yugoslav military are not in compliance with the relevant UN resolutions. The action would also be aimed at preventing further oppression by Yugoslav forces against Albanian Kosovars and averting a large scale humanitarian disaster.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has upgraded its travel advisory warning, recommending that Canadians defer all travel to the Federal



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Republic of Yugoslavia. Further, all those in the country are advised to depart immediately by the safest means possible. Most of the Canadian embassy staff and dependents have evacuated from our mission in Belgrade, which has temporarily reduced operations. Only a few embassy volunteers will remain to maintain a minimal level of operations.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 25, 1999

(2:00 p.m. EST)

No. 63

## MARKET ACCESS REPORT OUTLINES CANADA'S TRADE PRIORITIES

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today released the government's annual report on Canada's priorities for improving access to foreign markets. The report outlines 20 new agreements and initiatives negotiated by the Canadian government to assist Canadian exporters. The Minister released the report during his keynote address at the Canadian Association for Business Economics 1999 Policy Conference in Ottawa.

"It has been a great year for Canadian business, which exported a record \$367 billion in goods and services in 1998," said Minister Marchi. "This market access report shows just how hard the federal government is working to open doors to the global market for Canadian companies. This report is also an important tool for measuring Canada's performance in the global economy."

*Opening Doors to the World: Canada's International Market Access Priorities — 1999* describes how the federal government is seeking improved access for goods, services and investments in key markets, including the United States. Improving market access is a key element of Canada's strategy for assisting Canadian exporters and investors in foreign markets.

"Canadians can compete and win against the world's best if they are able to operate on equal terms of access," said Minister Marchi. "In this report, we identify the areas where work remains to be done to provide Canadian exporters and investors with equal access, and we outline what the government intends to do about it in 1999."

The report notes major trade policy agreements reached in 1998 that provide Canadian companies with new opportunities in world markets. These accords include a government procurement agreement with Korea, a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) on conformity assessment and an agreement on veterinary equivalency with the European Union, as well as the implementation of a second round of accelerated North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) tariff reductions.



The report is available on two Web sites: <<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>> and <<http://www.exportsource.gc.ca>>. It also may be obtained by contacting the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade at 1-800-267-8376 (toll-free) or (613) 944-4000 (in the Ottawa area).

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A backgrounder containing highlights from the report is attached.

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## **Backgrounder**

### ***OPENING DOORS TO THE WORLD: CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL MARKET ACCESS PRIORITIES — 1999***

With exports of goods and services accounting for 39 percent of Canada's gross domestic product in 1998, maintaining and improving access to foreign markets for Canadian exporters and investors is a top priority for the government.

Around the globe, tariffs and other obstacles to commerce are coming down. Canada continues to play a leadership role in moving toward a world in which trade moves freely — in a way that promotes Canadian values. However, much remains to be done.

*Opening Doors to the World: Canada's International Market Access Priorities — 1999* presents the government's priorities for further improving access to key markets for Canadian exporters and investors. It outlines the range of initiatives that the government will pursue this year at the multilateral, regional and bilateral levels, as well as details on specific obstacles to be tackled in several markets.

The document also highlights significant market-opening results from 1998 that will bring benefits to Canadian exporters and investors.

#### **Market Access Results in 1998**

- Canada agreed with other members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to an Agreement to Eliminate Duties on Specified Pharmaceutical Products extending duty-free trade to 639 additional products, including inputs.
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC) members agreed to send the results of their work on sectoral trade liberalization to the WTO. Canada will seek to expand participation in the WTO for this initiative.
- The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) Agreement on Basic Telecommunications (ABT) came into effect on February 5, 1998. By November 1998, specific commitments regarding market access, national treatment, and the application of pro-competitive regulatory principles were undertaken by all 89 participants in the ABT.
- Canada and the United States agreed to a wide range of measures to address long-standing issues in agricultural trade.

- Canada and the United States agreed to the implementation of a nationwide in-transit preclearance program in Canada, which builds on the success of Open Skies.
- Michigan delayed full application of its single business tax to Canadian companies.
- A second round of accelerated NAFTA tariff reductions was implemented, affecting some \$25 million in Canada–Mexico bilateral trade.
- Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) negotiations were officially launched.
- Canada and Mercosur signed a Trade and Investment Co-operation Arrangement, which lays the foundation for enhanced bilateral trade and investment.
- Canada and the European Union (EU) signed a Mutual Recognition Agreement on conformity assessment for regulated products to reduce costs and facilitate market access in Europe for Canadian producers of telecommunications terminal equipment, information technology (IT) equipment, electrical equipment, medical devices, pharmaceutical products, and recreational boats.
- Canada and the EU signed a new agreement on veterinary equivalency to facilitate trade in animals, fish and animal/fish products.
- Canada and the EU signed an amendment to the Canada-EU Agreement on Co-operation in Science and Technology, and extended coverage of the Agreement to all sectors, including biotechnology.
- The EU modified its grain import regime, reducing the duty on lower grades of Canadian durum wheat.
- The Japan Agricultural Standards Policy Committee made several recommendations that should benefit Canadian exporters, such as calling for privatization of grading and inspection services, and urging further consideration of international harmonization of standards.
- Japan accepted Canadian National Lumber Grading Association standards for finger-jointed and machine stress-rated lumber.
- Korea removed restrictive labelling requirements for ozonated bottled water.
- Korea and Canada reached a bilateral government procurement agreement, putting Canadian telecommunications exporters on par with U.S. and European competitors.

- India announced intentions to phase out import restrictions on a wide range of products.
- Indonesia reduced import tariffs on a large number of chemical, food and agricultural products.
- The WTO Dispute Settlement Body confirmed that Australia's ban on imports of Canadian salmon violates Australia's WTO obligations.

March 1999





# News Release

March 25, 1999

(5:00 p.m. EST)

No. 64

## APPEAL OF WTO PANEL RULING

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief today announced that Canada intends to appeal the World Trade Organization (WTO) report that suggests Canada's dairy pricing system could be considered an export subsidy and recommends changes to how Canada administers the Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) for fluid milk.

"Governments and industry have worked closely together in a Team Canada approach to defend the Canadian dairy industry's interests in this challenge by the United States and New Zealand," said Mr. Marchi.

"The Government of Canada shares the industry's serious concerns about the panel report," said Mr. Vanclief. "The sector adopted its classified pricing system in 1996 to comply with the new WTO rules, and we do not think it should be considered an export subsidy. We stand with our industry on this."

Under WTO rules, it will probably be late May before Canada can officially announce any formal appeal.

Canadian dairy farmers price their milk according to its end use through a classified pricing system. The U.S. and New Zealand argued that parts of the classified pricing system constitute an export subsidy. Canada argues that they are not an export subsidy.

The panel report also recommends changes in the administration of Canada's TRQ for fluid milk. The report did not challenge Canada's right to limit fluid milk imports through a TRQ. However, the panel found that the TRQ should be open to both commercial imports and to cross-border shoppers.

- 30 -



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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Leslie Swartman  
Office of the Minister for International Trade  
(613) 992-7332

Sylvie Millette LeDuc, Press Secretary  
Office of the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food  
(613) 759-1761

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874



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C55

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 26, 1999

(3:10 p.m. EST)

No. 65

## CHAN TO VISIT JAPAN AND KOREA

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan announced that he will lead a business delegation to Japan and visit South Korea from March 28 to April 2.

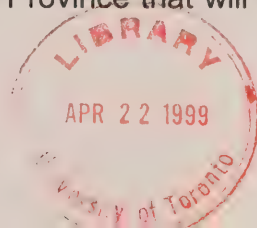
"The past year and a half has been turbulent for Asian economies. This visit will provide an excellent opportunity to strengthen our ties and reiterate our commitment to the region," said Mr. Chan. "I am pleased that over a dozen business people and provincial government representatives will join me in Japan."

The Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) will be in Japan from March 28 to March 31. His visit will begin in Tokyo, where he will meet with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and then he will be hosted by the Port of Yokohama, which has a sister relationship with the Port of Vancouver. Mr. Chan will also represent Canada at Health Care '99, Japan's premier international medical import trade show. A number of Canadian companies will be represented among approximately 200 exporting companies from 15 different countries seeking to enter, or to expand their activities in, the world's second-largest health-care market.

Mr. Chan will then travel to Kyushu Island where he will meet with the Vice-Governor of Fukuoka Prefecture, the Mayor of Fukuoka City, the Canadian head of UN Habitat for Asia, the Canada-Fukuoka Society, participants in the Canadian-Japanese Exchange and Teaching Program, and the Chairman of the Kyushu Electric Power Company (Kyuden).

On March 31, Mr. Chan will proceed to South Korea. In Seoul, he will meet with Korea's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Energy to discuss expanding business and investment co-operation with Canada. The Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) will deliver the keynote address at a luncheon gathering of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Korea.

Before returning to Canada, Mr. Chan will travel to Chonju, the capital of North Cholla Province, to witness the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between SNC-Lavalin International and North Cholla Province that will establish commercial



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collaboration on the Saemankeum Reclamation Project and related environmental facilities planned for the region.

-30-

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Naseem Nuraney  
Office of the Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific)  
(613) 995-1852

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874

**LIST OF CANADIAN EXHIBITORS AT JETRO HEALTHCARE '99  
MARCH 30-APRIL 3, 1999  
TOKYO INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTRE**

**Healthcare products sector**

- 1) Broda Seating**  
Waterloo, Ontario  
Tel: (519)746-8080  
Contacts: Elise Fortuna and David Heap  
  
Japanese distributor: Iuchi Seieido Co., Ltd.
- 2) Pinel Medical Inc.**  
Waterloo, Ontario  
Tel: (519)888-0997  
Fax: (519)725-3658  
Contact: Ludwig Piron, President  
  
Japanese distributor: JPH Services Co., Ltd.
- 3) Parsons A.D.L. Inc.**  
Tottenham, Ontario  
Tel: (905)936-3580  
Fax: (905)936-3585  
Contact: Peter M. Shmagora
- 4) Absorb-Plus Textiles Inc.**  
Mount-Royal, Quebec  
Tel: (514)345-9770  
Fax: (514)735-9619  
Contact: Charles El-Mir, Vice-President (Sales and Marketing)  
  
Japanese agent: OCPS Co., Ltd.



- 5) **B.H.M. Medical Inc.**  
Magog, Quebec  
Tel: (819)868-0441  
Fax: (819)868-2249  
Contact: Christian de Grace, Director
- 6) **Atsumaru International Marketing Consultants Inc.**  
Montreal, Quebec  
Tel: (514)481-2516  
Fax: (514)481-6642  
Contact: Shaun McMahon, President

#### **General medical equipment / products sector**

- 1) **CardioMed Supplies Inc.**  
Gormley, Ontario  
Tel: (905)888-1965  
Fax: (905)888-1433  
Contact: Christian Dube, President  
  
Japanese distributor: LMS Co., Ltd.
- 2) **O-TWO Systems International Inc.**  
Mississauga, Ontario  
Tel: (905) 677-9410  
Fax: (905) 677-2035  
Contact: Ken Thom, International Sales Director  
  
Japanese distributor: Daido Hoxan Co., Ltd.
- 3) **Phoenix Biomedical Products Inc.**  
Mississauga, Ontario  
Tel: (905)670-8299  
Fax: (905)670-0195  
Contact: Ezzat Iskander, President  
  
Japanese distributor: Nissui Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

- 4) **Bi-Op Inc.**  
St-Charles-Borromée, Quebec  
Tel: (800)667-2467  
Fax: (514)755-4969  
Contact: Raymond Henry, President
  
- 5) **International Newtech Development Inc.**  
Delta, British Columbia  
Tel: (604)522-1619  
Fax: (604)522-6331  
Contact: Jonny Yau

### **Industry associations**

- 1) **Association of Ontario Medical Manufacturers (AOMM)**  
Gormley, Ontario  
Tel: (905)888-1965  
Fax: (905)888-1433  
Contact: Christian Dubé, President
  
- 2) **AQFIM (Association québécoise des fabricants de l'industrie médicale)**  
Montreal, Quebec  
Tel: (514) 383-3268  
Fax: (514) 383-3250  
Contact: Kathleen Emond

### **Provincial government offices**

- 1) **Ontario International Trade Corporation (OITC)**  
Toronto, Ontario  
Tel: (416)325-6783  
Fax: (416)325-2766  
Contact: Pamela Kanter, Area Director (Japan and Korea)

2) **B.C. Trade and Investment Office**

Vancouver, British Columbia

Tel: (604)844-1922

Fax: (604)660-2457

Contact: André Gour

**Canadian Embassy, Tokyo**

7-3-38 Akasaka

Minato-ku, Tokyo

Tel: (03)5412-6200

Fax: (03)5412-6250

Contacts: Allan Edwards, Second Secretary (Commercial)

Yasujiro Yabe, Commercial Officer



# News Release

March 26, 1999

(4:40 p.m. EST)

No. 66

## YOUNG ONTARIANS TO HAVE A VOICE AT THE FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT IN MONCTON

The Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, Diane Marleau, will be attending a consultation session for Ontario tomorrow, at Collège Boréal in Sudbury. Nearly 70 young people from the region and all over the province have been invited to discuss issues that concern them today and that affect their future. The Fédération de la Jeunesse Franco-Ontarienne is collaborating in this event.

This meeting, the third in a series of seven across Canada, will be used to formulate recommendations to the Canadian government in preparation for the Eighth Francophone Summit to be held next September 3 to 5.

Youth is the main theme of the Summit, which will bring together 52 heads of state and government from French-speaking countries in Moncton, New Brunswick. They will also be discussing the economy and new technologies, two secondary themes closely associated with the future of young people.

"The training and socio-economic integration of young people will be central to the discussions of the heads of state and government," said the Minister. "We are therefore attaching the greatest importance to these consultations, which offer an excellent opportunity for young Canadians to make their interests and priorities known to the world leaders of La Francophonie."

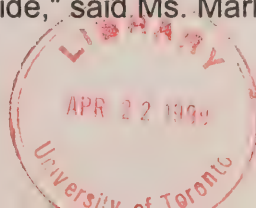
These youth consultations are organized by the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development, in close collaboration with the Fédération de la Jeunesse canadienne française. In addition to discussion of the Summit's themes, there will be consultations on culture and new media, human rights and democracy, and the role of La Francophonie. Similar consultations are also being organized in several other countries of La Francophonie.

"Youth is a subject that is particularly important to me. Thanks to this process, we can hope that the results of the Moncton summit will reflect the aspirations and meet the expectations of Francophone youth worldwide," said Ms. Marleau. "Young people are



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our future, and we must listen closely to them if we want to convey an accurate picture of their concerns and thereby help to plan for a promising future."

The first sessions of this series of consultations with young Canadians took place in Alberta and Manitoba. In addition to Sudbury, similar sessions will be organized this spring in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec. A final meeting will then be held in Ottawa.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Chantal Reinert  
Office of the Minister for International Co-operation  
and Minister responsible for La Francophonie  
(819) 997-6919

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874

This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 26, 1999

(5:50 p.m. EST)

No. 67

## KILGOUR TO TRAVEL TO COSTA RICA FOR AN EXPERTS MEETING ON DRUGS AND HUMAN SECURITY

Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour today announced that he will visit Costa Rica to attend an Expert Group meeting on the effects of the trade in, and use of, illicit drugs. Secretary Kilgour, along with the Costa Rican Minister of Justice, Mónica Nagel Burger, will open the conference "Drugs and Human Security in the Americas" to be held March 28 to 30 in San José.

At the conference, officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and Canadian and other hemispheric governmental and non-governmental experts will discuss governance, economic development, education, health, and arms control issues, and possible options for countering the disastrous effects of drugs in the region.

"Canada believes the hemispheric illicit drug problem will be solved only through international instruments that address it as a human security issue," said Mr. Kilgour. "We need to develop joint initiatives to share expertise and benefit from the experience of the region's countries in addressing drug and related human welfare issues."

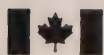
Mr. Kilgour's visit will provide Canada with an opportunity to conduct further discussions with hemispheric partners on the agenda for the first meeting of the Foreign Ministers Dialogue Group on Drugs, an initiative launched by Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy earlier this year. The Dialogue Group's first meeting will be held in June in Guatemala City, on the margins of the Organization of American States (OAS) General Assembly.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Office of the Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa)  
(613) 992-9404

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874



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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 27, 1999

(1:30 p.m. EST)

No. 68

## AXWORTHY CALLS IN YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR AND CONDEMNS ATTACKS AGAINST CIVILIANS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today instructed his senior officials to call in Yugoslavia's Ambassador to Canada, Pavle Todorovic, to warn him that Belgrade authorities will be held accountable for all crimes they have committed during the Kosovo conflict.

The warning was issued after Mr. Axworthy spoke late Friday to the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, Louise Arbour, and pledged Canada's continued full support for the Tribunal's work. Ambassador Todorovic was reminded of United Nations Security Council resolutions 1199 and 1203, which demand Yugoslavia's full co-operation with the Tribunal.

"Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic must understand that political and military leaders will be held personally accountable for all violations of international humanitarian law, war crimes and crimes against humanity," Mr. Axworthy said. "Canada will do all it can to support the International Criminal Tribunal in its efforts to bring war criminals to justice."

The Minister noted that Madame Arbour has written to President Milosevic emphasizing her determination to investigate all serious violations of international humanitarian law that merit prosecution in the international forum, particularly those involving attacks on the civilian population.

Minister Axworthy expressed Canada's grave concern over continuing reports of atrocities committed by Serbian forces in Kosovo. Growing evidence from the region shows that the authorities have intensified their crackdown on opposition figures, may be implicated in summary executions and other atrocities against civilians and are generally causing the humanitarian crisis to deepen.

The military actions by NATO countries currently underway in Yugoslavia are in response to a worsening humanitarian crisis and Yugoslavia's refusal to comply with successive UN Security Council resolutions and the agreements reached on



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October 25, 1998, providing for a ceasefire and an end to violence against the civilian population.

"The continuing campaign of terror against civilians and the scorched-earth policy being pursued by President Milosevic are further proof that he is fighting a brutal war against his own citizens," said Minister Axworthy. "We demand that he immediately cease his offensive in Kosovo and agree to peace, in the best interest of all his citizens."

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

March 30, 1999

(12:45 p.m. EST)

No. 69

## CANADA RESPONDS TO DEEPENING HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN KOSOVO REGION

The Government of Canada today announced supplementary aid measures in response to the increasing humanitarian catastrophe involving refugees from Kosovo. Canada will provide an additional \$10 million in humanitarian aid and will assist in an airlift of emergency supplies to the region.

Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau announced that the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will contribute \$10 million in humanitarian aid to be distributed by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). CIDA will also consider possible collaboration with Canadian non-governmental organizations. The money will help provide those affected by the conflict — including people who have fled to neighbouring countries — with basic necessities such as food, shelter and medical aid.

"Canadians are deeply concerned about the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation in the region," said Madame Marleau. "Approximately 25 percent of the Kosovo population are internally displaced or are considered refugees, making this undeniably a major humanitarian crisis."

The Department of National Defence (DND) will provide air transport for moving emergency supplies within the region.

"The members of the Canadian Forces are always willing to help alleviate human suffering," said National Defence Minister Art Eggleton. "We are pleased to be able to assist in this crisis."

"The international community must do all it can to alleviate the plight of the hundreds of thousands of refugees that Milosevic's brutality has produced through his campaign of ethnic cleansing over the past months," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. "We must also work to ensure that all parties that violate obligations under international humanitarian law are brought to justice."

Mr. Axworthy also reiterated that Canada will do all it can to assist the office of Louise Arbour and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in its task of gathering evidence against atrocities committed against the Kosovar population by the regime of President Slobodan Milosevic.



Latest figures given by UNHCR indicate that 567 000 people have been affected by the actions undertaken by the regime of President Milosevic. This estimate represents both people internally displaced within Kosovo and those displaced within the region.

With today's announcement, Canada has contributed a total of \$13.18 million toward humanitarian aid in the Kosovo region. This contribution has been distributed through UNICEF, World Food Program (WFP), CARE Canada, the ICRC and UNHCR.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1999 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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Randy Mylyk  
Office of the Minister of National Defence  
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Media Liaison Office  
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Chantal Reinert  
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and Minister responsible for La Francophonie  
(819) 997-6919

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Canadian International Development Agency  
(819) 997-6534  
[info@acdi-cida.gc.ca](mailto:info@acdi-cida.gc.ca)  
<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca> (electronic version of document)

This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

March 31, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EST)

No. 70

## AXWORTHY TRAVELS TO UN TO DISCUSS KOSOVO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will be in New York on April 1 to meet with United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan and other key UN players to discuss the deepening humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

"Canada has pushed for active Security Council engagement in the Kosovo crisis in spite of deep divisions among some of the Council's permanent members on how to respond. We will continue to consult with the UN on ways in which the Council might take action on the dire humanitarian situation in the region," said Mr. Axworthy.

In addition to meeting with Secretary-General Annan, Mr. Axworthy will meet with the incoming President of the Security Council, Alain Dejammet, Permanent Representative of France to the UN, as well as several other Permanent Representatives.

The Minister will also meet with the Brazilian Ambassador to the UN, Celso Amorim, to discuss the work of the two panels he chairs on weapons inspections and humanitarian conditions in Iraq, as well as a third panel dealing with Kuwaiti missing persons and property resulting from the Persian Gulf War. It was at Canada's suggestion and urging that these panels were established in late January to break a deadlock in the Council over how to proceed on the Iraq issue.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs  
(613) 995-1851

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874









# News Release

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[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

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March 31, 1999

(5:30 p.m. EST)

No. 71

## MARCHI SHOWCASES CANADA'S YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS IN HIGH-TECHNOLOGY MECCA

The savvy and expertise of Canada's young entrepreneurs will be on display next week as approximately 60 representatives of Canadian firms and educational institutions accompany International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi on a mission to Northern California.

"Seeing is believing," said Minister Marchi. "Once the businesses of Silicon Valley get a glimpse of what Canada's young entrepreneurs have to offer, I am convinced that strategic alliances and partnerships will follow in short order."

The Minister added that the young businesspeople on the mission will also draw attention to Canadian excellence in advanced technologies, and will support efforts to promote investment in Canada by demonstrating how Canada has retooled to become a world-class, competitive, knowledge-based economy.

Minister Marchi will attend a variety of events during the April 6-8 mission designed to showcase Canadian expertise in the areas of animation, environmental technologies, and hardware and software for the Internet. He will be accompanied on the trip by Members of Parliament Steve Mahoney (Mississauga West) and Marlene Jennings (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce-Lachine). Mr. Mahoney is chair of the Prime Minister's Caucus Task Force on Youth Entrepreneurship, and Ms. Jennings is a member of the Task Force.

The Minister will also meet with San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and major business groups in the San Francisco-San Jose region, and will address the Canadian/American Chamber of Commerce and a Commonwealth Club luncheon. Interviews and editorial boards with some of the region's major media outlets are also scheduled.

In keeping with the mission's high-technology focus, many key events will be broadcast in real time on the Internet. Both the live coverage and other images will be available on the Web site of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade at <[www.infoexport.gc.ca](http://www.infoexport.gc.ca)>.



Canada's information and communications technology industry has been growing by almost 10 percent per year since 1990, and in 1997 it had revenues of \$65.6 billion. The San Francisco Bay area, which includes Silicon Valley, is home to approximately 7000 high-technology companies representing a combined market value of US\$450 billion.

- 30 -

The list of participants and the Minister's media itinerary are attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Leslie Swartman  
Office of the Minister for International Trade  
(613) 992-7332

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874



## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

<b>Air Canada</b> Ottawa, Ontario	<b>Export Development Corporation</b> Ottawa, Ontario	<b>Nobility Environmental Software Systems Inc.</b> Vancouver, British Columbia
<b>Big Bang Animation Inc.</b> Montréal, Quebec	<b>Generation Solar Renewable Energy Systems Inc.</b> Peterborough, Ontario	<b>Nova Scotia Community College</b> Halifax, Nova Scotia
<b>Bioware Corporation</b> Edmonton, Alberta	<b>Harper Street Publishing</b> Dawson City, Yukon	<b>Red River College</b> Winnipeg, Manitoba
<b>Canadian Commercial Corporation</b> Ottawa, Ontario	<b>Human Resources Development Canada</b> Hull, Quebec	<b>Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.</b> Vancouver, British Columbia
<b>Capilano College</b> North Vancouver, British Columbia	<b>Humber College</b> Winnipeg, Manitoba	<b>Sheridan College</b> Oakville, Ontario
<b>CÉGEP Marie-Victorin</b> Montréal, Quebec	<b>Institut de création artistique et de recherche en infographie (ICARI)</b> Montréal, Quebec	<b>Solidum Systems Corp.</b> Ottawa, Ontario
<b>Centennial College</b> Scarborough, Ontario	<b>Ironside Technologies Inc.</b> Richmond Hill, Ontario	<b>St. Clair College</b> Windsor, Ontario
<b>Chromacide</b> Toronto, Ontario	<b>Lethbridge Community College</b> Lethbridge, Alberta	<b>Teamwave Software Ltd.</b> Calgary, Alberta
<b>Conor Pacific Environmental Technologies Inc.</b> Vancouver, British Columbia	<b>Loyalist College</b> Belleville, Ontario	<b>Ugera Productions</b> Whitehorse, Yukon
<b>Digital Impact Audio Programming</b> Burnaby, British Columbia	<b>New Brunswick Community College Miramichi</b> Miramichi, New Brunswick	<b>Yukon College</b> Whitehorse, Yukon
<b>Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design</b> Vancouver, British Columbia	<b>New Brunswick Economic Development, Tourism and Culture</b> Fredericton, New Brunswick	<b>Yukon Entrepreneurship Centre Society</b> Whitehorse, Yukon
<b>EnviroMetal Technologies Inc.</b> Waterloo, Ontario		



## **MEDIA ITINERARY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE MINISTER**

### **Wednesday, April 7**

- 8:00 a.m. Kick-off breakfast with participants, welcome address.  
Mark Hopkins Intercontinental Hotel
- 9:00 Interview with San Francisco *Examiner*
- 11:15 Call on San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown
- 12:15 p.m. Sponsors' presentations, Mark Hopkins Hotel
- 1:30 Student Animation Event  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
- 3:00 Tour of Alameda Naval Station Clean-up Operation
- 6:15 Remarks to reception in honour of mission  
Welcome by Mayor Willie Brown
- 7:30 Dinner address to Canadian-American Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting

### **Thursday, April 8**

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast and roundtable remarks to local business leaders  
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
- 10:00 Editorial Board meeting with San Francisco *Chronicle*
- 12:00 p.m. Luncheon address to Commonwealth Club, followed  
by press scrum (15 min.)
- 3:15 Visit to The Tech, Museum of Innovation
- 4:15 Official visit to Canadian Consulate Trade Office, Silicon Valley  
San Jose
- 4:30 Interview with *San Jose Mercury News*
- 6:15 Remarks to reception, San Jose Chamber of Commerce

### **Friday, April 9**

- Official visit to the new location for Canadian Trade Office





# News Release

April 1, 1999

(2:45 p.m. EST)

No. 72

## CANADA REQUESTS NAFTA CONSULTATIONS ON NORTH DAKOTA TRADE BARRIER

Canada has requested NAFTA consultations with the United States over a proposed law in North Dakota that would restrict the entry of Canadian products under the guise of technical requirements.

The proposed law would require all agricultural products and livestock entering the state from other countries to be certified regarding possible traces of various chemicals, a restriction that would not be imposed on products entering North Dakota from other U.S. states.

"It is clear that this new law violates NAFTA, particularly the national treatment provisions," said International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi. "The U.S. administration is responsible for ensuring that the actions of its states conform to NAFTA. We are asking them to help ensure that this legislation is not signed into law."

"The proposed new law would prohibit a wide range of Canadian agricultural products from entering North Dakota without the necessary scientific justification required by NAFTA and by domestic U.S. regulations," said Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclicf. "There is no scientific basis for this, and we will vigorously defend the rights of Canadian exporters of agricultural goods."

"Canada and the U.S. are each others' best customers," said the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board Ralph Goodale. "We expect the U.S. to rigorously respect its international trade obligations, especially toward Canada."

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Leslie Swartman  
Office of the Minister for International Trade  
(613) 992-7332



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Sylvie Millette LeDuc, Press Secretary  
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# News Release

Government  
Publications

www.dfa-it-ma.eci.gc.ca

April 1, 1999

(4:00 p.m. EST)

No. 73

## BETTER ACCESS TO EU MARKET FOR CANADIAN SHRIMP EXPORTS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today noted good news for Canadian shrimp exporters. After an extended Canadian campaign in Europe, a March 30 decision from the European Union's Council of Fisheries Ministers will lower European duty rates on boiled and peeled coldwater shrimp from April 1 to December 31, 1999.

"As of today, we've got better access to the European market, especially for shrimp processed on shore," said Minister Marchi. "This comes after more than a year of concerted representations by me, by Canadian diplomats in Europe, by federal and Newfoundland officials and by the Fisheries Council of Canada."

The duty will be dropped from 20 percent to 6 percent on 4 000 tonnes of boiled and peeled shrimp entering the European market in 1999.

In 1998, despite the 20 percent tariff, Canadian companies succeeded in exporting 1 900 tonnes of processed shrimp to Europe, worth \$17.7 million.

Newfoundland's in-shore shrimp fishery is especially poised to benefit. In 1998, the size of that fishery was up to a Total Allowable Catch of 30 000 tonnes. It is increasingly oriented to value-added processed products, and a main market is Europe.

- 30 -

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# News Release

April 3, 1999

(2:30 p.m. EST)

No. 74

## CANADA DEPLOYS PEACE MONITORS TO SUPPORT HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES IN ALBANIA, MACEDONIA

The Government of Canada announced today that Canadians will be deployed to support humanitarian agencies in Albania and Macedonia.

Canadian Forces personnel, RCMP officers and civilian experts, as well as vehicles and communications equipment, all of which are part of the Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) of the Organization on Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), will be transferred to new OSCE humanitarian duties.

The initiative, based primarily in Tirana but also in Skopje, responds to the crisis caused by the large rise in the number of Kosovar refugees being "ethnically cleansed" by Serb security and paramilitary forces and gangs. Nearly 188 500 refugees have fled to Albania, and 131 000 to Macedonia. Canadian Brigadier-General Michel Maisonneuve will lead the mission's 50-person Tirana-based group. This group will include at least six Canadians. Twenty-three other Canadians who have been working under the KVM remain in the region ready for reassignment.

"Canada is deeply concerned about the well-being of these people, who have been uprooted from their homes by an unconscionable and systematic planned policy of ethnic cleansing pursued by the Yugoslavian authorities," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. "Not since the end of the Second World War has Europe seen such a tragic displacement of humanity. The refugees' plight cries out to all of us to provide assistance."

The Minister said that the pressures placed upon Macedonia and Albania threaten to increase instability in the Balkan region, contributing to a possible spreading of the conflict that could further undermine peace in Europe.

Through the Peacebuilding Fund, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has committed \$3 million to support Canadian civilian verifiers in the KVM.



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"Canada made a strong commitment to assisting the people of Kosovo in supporting the KVM," said Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau. "Canadians will use the verification mission to complement the humanitarian and relief work that we are already providing for Kosovar refugees."

Minister of National Defence Art Eggleton said: "By appointing General Maisonneuve, the OSCE has recognized the long-standing experience of the Canadian Forces in assisting civilians in crisis."

Solicitor-General Lawrence MacAulay said that RCMP officers attached to the mission will provide advice on public safety, and will liaise with humanitarian agencies.

"The RCMP's professionalism is highly regarded worldwide," said Mr. MacAulay. "Canada is pleased to provide this expertise to assist people in dire need."

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# News Release

April 4, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 75

## CANADA TO OFFER SAFE HAVEN TO KOSOVO REFUGEES

The Government of Canada today announced that 5000 Kosovar refugees will be offered safe haven in Canada. This is in response to a call by Mrs. Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), for the international community to harbour refugees fleeing Kosovo.

The Government of Canada will co-ordinate its efforts with the UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration to refine the details of this operation.

"Prime Minister Chrétien decided that Canada would respond immediately to the request from the United Nations to assist the countries in the Balkans, which can no longer cope with the influx of refugees," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. "Slobodan Milosevic is responsible for this forced exodus. His brutal actions have reminded the world of similar repressions of whole populations that have occurred earlier in this century."

"Canada has a strong humanitarian tradition, even more so in particularly tragic circumstances such as the current crisis in Kosovo," said Mme. Lucienne Robillard, Minister for Citizenship and Immigration. "The eventual return of these refugees to Kosovo under secure conditions remains the wish of both the refugees and the UNHCR. The immediate priority for Citizenship and Immigration will be to provide a safe haven with shelter and food for these 5000 refugees."

A Hercules transport carrier delivered blankets, requested by the UNHCR and donated by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), to Albania on Saturday and to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia today. The Department of National Defence will co-ordinate closely with Citizenship and Immigration Canada to facilitate the transport of refugees to Canada.

"The Canadian Forces is examining ways to facilitate this relief effort," said Defence Minister Art Eggleton. "This is above all a humanitarian effort as we seek to re-establish peace and security in the region."

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Canada recently announced a \$10-million aid package from CIDA to help the ever-increasing refugee catastrophe. CIDA had previously contributed more than \$7 million in humanitarian and peacebuilding efforts in the region.

"Canada has responded to the urgent needs of the refugees, but we are prepared to do more in the coming days and weeks to help the hundreds of thousands of them, most of whom are women, children and elderly, who have suffered so much already," said Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, Diane Marleau.

- 30 -

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# News Release

April 5, 1999

(5:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 76

## ENVOY TO EXAMINE KOSOVARs' PLIGHT AND PLAN FOR SAFE HAVEN IN CANADA

The Government of Canada announced today that Raphaël Girard, Canadian Ambassador to Yugoslavia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), has been appointed special envoy to examine the conditions of Kosovar refugees, and to plan for safe haven in Canada for 5000 of their number.

Mr. Girard will travel Tuesday afternoon to FYROM and Albania to advise on and arrange for the most efficient and effective way to bring the refugees to Canada. He will be assisted in this mission by officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Department of National Defence, the Department of Citizenship and Immigration and the Canadian International Development Agency.

The Government announced on Easter Sunday that it would provide safe haven for refugees fleeing the "ethnic cleansing" currently under way in Kosovo by Yugoslavian forces. The refugees will arrive in Canada at Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Trenton, and will be housed there and at CFBs Borden, Meaford and Petawawa.

The special envoy will also assess first-hand the impact of the humanitarian and refugee disaster on Kosovo's neighbours. He is expected to meet with senior representatives of the governments of the FYROM and Albania, and will visit refugee camps in the region. He will also meet with officials of the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration, which are co-ordinating the international effort to harbour the Kosovar refugees.

Since Canada closed its embassy in Belgrade on the eve of NATO's current military campaign against Yugoslavian forces, Mr. Girard has been freed as ambassador to undertake his special envoy responsibilities.



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Mr. Girard has extensive experience in the immigration and refugee field. He was assistant deputy minister (operations) of Citizenship and Immigration Canada from 1995 to 1997, after having served the department since 1961. He has held immigration-related posts in a variety of Canadian embassies and high commissions, including London, Rome, Beirut and Belgrade.

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# News Release

April 13, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EST)

No. 78

## CANADA TO TAKE PART IN CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF THE ECONOMY AND FINANCE OF LA FRANCOPHONIE

The Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, Diane Marleau, today announced that the President of the Treasury Board and Minister responsible for Infrastructure, Marcel Massé, will lead the Canadian delegation to the Conference of Ministers of the Economy and Finance of La Francophonie, in Monaco on April 14 and 15.

Canada intends to affirm its priorities on key international economic issues, especially the debt problem, reform of the international financial system, and the integration of developing countries in the international trade system, at the launching of new multilateral negotiations, sponsored by the World Trade Organization.

"In the era of globalization, the heavy debt problem of the poorest countries, of which many are members of La Francophonie, is unacceptable and is marginalizing them by depriving them of full participation in the global economy," said Mr. Massé. Canada favours generous action from the international community to meet this challenge."

"This conference is particularly important for Canada, since it comes a few months before the Summit of Heads of State and Heads of Government of countries using French as a common language, which will be held in Moncton this September," said Madame Marleau.

The conference was proposed by heads of state and heads of government at the November 1997 Summit of La Francophonie, held in Hanoi. The goal is to provide a forum for economic ministers to discuss major global economic issues.

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

April 14, 1999

(3:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 79

## CANADA EXPRESSES REGRET OVER MISSILE TESTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today expressed regret that India and Pakistan have again tested medium-range ballistic missiles.

"We regret the decision taken by India and Pakistan to proceed with testing medium-range ballistic missiles. These actions fly in the face of international opinion, as expressed in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1172," said Mr. Axworthy. "Significant financial resources, which could be used to raise the level of human development, are being squandered on weapons that weaken stability and security in the region."

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan welcomed recent efforts by the Indian and Pakistani governments to improve bilateral relations. "However, missile tests such as the ones just conducted will only serve to impede the process of confidence building in South Asia. We therefore call on both India and Pakistan to desist from any further tests."

Minister Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan again urged both India and Pakistan to take the steps outlined in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1172, which was approved unanimously, in response to the nuclear tests conducted by India and Pakistan in May 1998. Among other measures, the Security Council resolution specifically called on India and Pakistan to cease development of ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons.

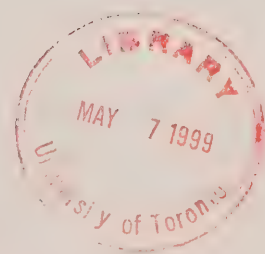
- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

April 14, 1999

(3:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 80

## MARCHI REPORTS ON CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Canadian exports grew impressively in 1998 despite a turbulent year in the global economy, according to a report to Parliament tabled today by International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi.

*Team Canada Inc Achievements Report 1998/1999* is the third annual report to Parliament on the government's international business development activities and programs.

"This year's report shows that our efforts to boost trade and investment are on the right track," said Minister Marchi. "There is impressive growth in high-technology sectors of the economy that produce high-wage jobs with a future. In addition, the growing Team Canada Inc partnership means it is becoming easier than ever for companies to get the information they need to reach foreign markets."

Among the report's conclusions:

- Canada's exports of goods reached a record \$368.9 billion in 1998, almost double the 1992 figure.
- At the end of 1998, total foreign direct investment in Canada reached \$217 billion, an increase of 10 percent over the previous year.
- The Team Canada Inc network expanded from 3 to 20 federal members, resulting in improved service to Canadian companies.
- Progress continues on promoting a rules-based trading system through ongoing work within the North American Free Trade Agreement, negotiations on the Free Trade Area of the Americas and the European Free Trade Area, and preparations for expected negotiations under the World Trade Organization.

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Department of Foreign Affairs  
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères  
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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

April 14, 1999

(4:50 p.m. EDT)

No. 81

## CANADA DEEPLY REGRETS SEVERITY OF ANWAR SENTENCE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today said that he deeply regretted the severity of the sentence handed down to Anwar Ibrahim, Malaysia's former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, and noted that several aspects of his trial and related events raised concerns about its fairness. Anwar was convicted today of four charges of committing corrupt practices, and was sentenced to a prison term of six years.

"Anwar was initially detained under Malaysia's Internal Security Act without access to legal counsel, thereby unduly restricting his ability to defend himself in court when charges were subsequently laid against him," said Mr. Axworthy. "Public comments on Anwar's guilt before the trial also undermined his ability to receive a free and fair trial."

"Moreover, during the trial, the defence was precluded from presenting its case in full," said Minister Axworthy. "We understand that Anwar will be appealing his conviction. We hope that the appeal will be dealt with fairly and expeditiously and that it will take full account of the concerns that have been raised regarding the trial. We are disappointed that Anwar will not be granted bail pending the outcome of the appeal."

Anwar Ibrahim was arrested on September 20, 1998, after leading an anti-government demonstration in Kuala Lumpur. He was badly beaten while in police custody. Malaysia's Inspector General of Police subsequently resigned and admitted responsibility for the assault.

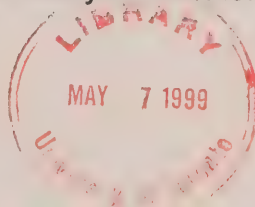
"The Malaysian government established a Commission of Inquiry into Anwar's beating which, we are pleased to note, conducted its hearings in an open and transparent manner," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan. "We urge the Malaysian government to take appropriate legal action, which should result from the Commission's findings. This would help restore confidence in the right of Malaysian citizens to fair and impartial treatment under the law."

Referring to reports of demonstrations taking place in Kuala Lumpur after the verdict was announced, Mr. Axworthy called on the Malaysian authorities to respect the right of



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Malaysians to peaceful assembly and expressed hope that both demonstrators and police would avoid violence.

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# News Release

April 16, 1999

(2:10 p.m. EDT)

No. 82

## GOVERNMENT SEEKS INPUT ON POSSIBLE RETALIATION AGAINST EUROPEAN UNION PRODUCTS

The Government of Canada is seeking public comments on a proposal to increase tariffs on certain European Union products in retaliation for the EU's continued ban on imports of Canadian beef.

In May 1998, a World Trade Organization arbitrator gave the EU until May 13, 1999 to comply with an earlier ruling to allow the importation of Canadian beef that is produced with growth-promoting hormones.

"Compliance with WTO measures is essential to the integrity of the trading system," said International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi. "Canada will defend its export interests and keep all its options open in order to resolve this long-standing dispute."

"The ban has effectively shut Canada out of the EU market at a time when Canada's capacity to export beef has been expanding," said Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vancilief. "The ban is not based on scientific evidence."

The EU has indicated that it may not meet the May 13 deadline, and has initiated discussions with Canada on compensation. If an agreement cannot be reached, the government will ask the WTO to allow Canada to impose retaliatory duties.

Should the WTO authorize Canada to retaliate, the government intends to select products from a list to be published in the Canada Gazette on April 17, 1999. Tariffs of 100 percent would be imposed on those products. Interested parties are asked to comment by May 17, 1999.



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The EU banned hormone-treated beef in 1989. Both Canada and the United States requested WTO dispute settlement panels in 1996.

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A more detailed background document, including the Canada Gazette notice, is available under *News Releases* on the Department's Internet site.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>





International Trade  
Commerce international

# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

April 19, 1999

(11:00 a.m. EDT)

No. 83

## CANADA TO HOST NAFTA COMMISSION MEETING

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced that Canada will host the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Commission meeting on April 23 in Ottawa. The Minister will be joined by United States Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky and Mexican Secretary of Commerce and Industrial Development Herminio Blanco in celebrating the fifth anniversary of the NAFTA.

"After five years, the NAFTA has been a resounding success for all its partners, promoting strong economic growth, increased investment and trade between our three countries and historically low unemployment levels," said the Minister. "This meeting is an opportunity to celebrate achievements to date and, more importantly, to chart the agreement's future path."

During the Commission meeting, the three Ministers will review the results of the operational review, launched last year to establish priorities for the NAFTA Working Groups and Committees; consider progress across the NAFTA Work Program and how to build on the success to date; and discuss issues of shared interest with respect to the broader trade agenda. They will also discuss other bilateral and trilateral issues.

In addition to the Commission meeting on Friday, the three Ministers will attend a breakfast with university students from Canada, the United States and Mexico and a public business luncheon in honour of the NAFTA's fifth anniversary. On Thursday evening, the three Ministers will take part in a roundtable meeting and dinner hosted by the Business Council on National Issues.

"We need to evaluate both the opportunities and the challenges facing the NAFTA," said Minister Marchi. "In other words, we must ensure the agreement remains the vital, state-of-the-art trade instrument it was intended to be."

- 30 -



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# News Release

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April 19, 1999

(11:10 a.m. EDT)

No. 84

## KILGOUR WELCOMES THE LAUNCH OF REPORT ON THE EFFECT OF WAR ON CHILDREN

Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour today welcomed the launch in Canada of a new report by the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers. The report, entitled *The Use of Children as Soldiers in Africa: A Country Analysis of Child Recruitment and Participation in Armed Conflict*, studied the effect of war on children in 52 African countries.

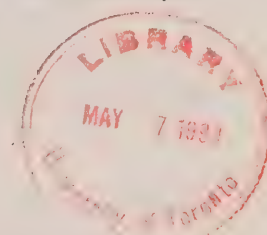
"This timely report reflects the importance of building international awareness of the problems linked to the use of children in armed conflict in Africa," said Mr. Kilgour. "It presents a grim picture of the risks to children and of the long-term consequences for the societies who use their children for war."

The report documents and assesses the extent of the military recruitment of African children and their use as soldiers in armed conflict. The Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers is composed of seven leading international NGOs (non-governmental organizations) including Amnesty International, the Defence for Children International and Human Rights Watch.

The Government of Canada and Canadian NGOs last autumn created a joint Committee on War-Affected Children chaired by Senator Landon Pearson, with a view to charting a common strategy for the future. Canada has also devoted significant resources specifically targeted to the needs of war-affected children. Programming has been undertaken or is under way to help child soldiers in Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Angola.

The report is being presented as a background document to the African conference on the Use of Children as Soldiers, which is taking place April 19 to 22 in Maputo, Mozambique.

- 30 -



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# News Release

April 19, 1999

(3:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 85

## GOVERNMENT OF CANADA TABLES RESPONSE TO CANADA AND THE NUCLEAR CHALLENGE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and National Defence Minister Art Eggleton today renewed the Government of Canada's unequivocal commitment to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation as they tabled the government's response to a standing committee report on the subject. The response includes a comprehensive government policy statement entitled *Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation: Advancing Canadian Objectives*, which will guide Canada's approach to the "nuclear challenge."

"The government today reiterates its long-standing nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation policy, and pledges to work consistently to reduce the political legitimacy and value of nuclear weapons in order to contribute to the goal of their progressive reduction and eventual elimination," said Mr. Axworthy. "In light of global challenges and our obligation to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, Canada reaffirms its goal of a world free of nuclear weapons."

*Canada and the Nuclear Challenge: Reducing the Political Value of Nuclear Weapons for the Twenty-first Century* was released by the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade (SCFAIT) last December, following extensive hearings. The report made 15 recommendations, each of which the government has addressed in the response tabled today in the House of Commons.

"In responding to the Committee's report, the government has adopted a balanced approach – one that furthers Canada's international disarmament and non-proliferation goals while upholding our security and Alliance commitments as a member of NATO," said Mr. Eggleton. "I am confident that this renewed policy will enable Canada to continue working for a more secure and peaceful world."

Most of the Committee's recommendations reflect and support the government's long-standing nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation policy, and the promotion of international, regional and human security. The government's statement strengthens these policy directions. Some notable examples include:

- the government's commitment that Canada will continue to resist any movement to validate nuclear weapons as acceptable currency in international politics;

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- the government's reaffirmation that Canada's primary objectives are to promote and support universal adherence to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, while ensuring that Canadian nuclear exports do not contribute to the development of any nuclear explosive devices;
- a pledge to work with like-minded states to reinforce and enhance the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime, and to actively promote the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;
- the government's support for the Committee's recommendation to hold an annual meeting with non-governmental organizations, and a commitment to involve Canadians further in discussions with respect to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues;
- the government's resolve to work actively to halt proliferation, to roll back the nuclear weapons programs in India and Pakistan, and to urge the nuclear-weapon States to pursue energetically nuclear disarmament activities and the elimination of nuclear weapons, sooner rather than later.

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The government response to the SCFAIT Report and the government policy are available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site at [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca) under *Sites of Interest* and *What's New*. Copies will also be available from DFAIT's InfoCentre at 1-800-267-8376.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

April 19, 1999

(6:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 86

## CANADA CONDEMNS VIOLENCE IN EAST TIMOR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today strongly condemned the escalating violence in East Timor over the weekend, during which attacks by pro-integration militia resulted in at least 13 deaths. They also expressed strong concern that the further deterioration of the security situation could undermine the UN-sponsored negotiations on East Timor that are to reconvene later this week in New York.

"I am deeply concerned about recent events in Dili and in Liquiça, in which many lives were lost. We call on all parties to declare an immediate cease-fire, and on the Indonesian government and its security forces to take steps to disarm the groups involved in the recent violence," said Minister Axworthy. "The Indonesian government is responsible for maintaining peace and security in East Timor, and for protecting all East Timorese civilians. We hope that it will honour its commitment to a peaceful transition in East Timor."

Minister Axworthy urged that immediate access be granted to the International Red Cross and Komnas Ham, the Indonesian Human Rights Commission, to investigate the recent events and to ensure that humanitarian needs are being met. He also said that in the current highly charged political environment, statements such as CNRT (Conselho Nacional da Resistencia Timorese) President Xanana Gusmao's recent call to arms only serve to exacerbate the situation, although he took note of Mr. Gusmao's clarification that his statement related to actions of self-defence.

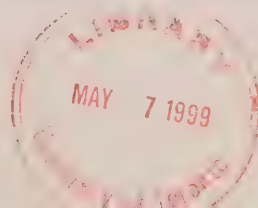
Canada supports efforts brokered by the United Nations to promote dialogue and reconciliation in East Timor as the best means to establish an environment conducive to the holding of a direct ballot in East Timor later in the year.

"Canada believes that an atmosphere of peace and security is essential before UN-brokered efforts to promote dialogue and reconciliation in East Timor can succeed. The UN process remains the best means of reaching a peaceful resolution in East Timor and, to this end, we urge Indonesia to agree to an early UN presence in East Timor," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan. "We also encourage Bishop Belo and



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Bishop Basilio to continue their proposed reconciliation talks at the community level in an effort to prevent further bloodshed.”

East Timor, with a population of approximately 800 000, is a former colony of Portugal and was annexed as the 27th province of Indonesia in 1976. In 1998, the Indonesian government began negotiations for special autonomy for East Timor in UN-sponsored talks with Portugal. The Portuguese and Indonesian governments have agreed to consult the East Timorese population on the autonomy package, by direct ballot, in the coming months.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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# News Release

April 21, 1999

(3:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 87

## CANADA AND THE U.S. LAUNCH NEGOTIATIONS ON TRANSBOUNDARY SMOG

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Environment Minister Christine Stewart today announced that Canada and the United States will launch negotiations to reduce transboundary smog.

"Smog knows no borders," Mr. Axworthy stated. "This decision underlines the joint commitment of Canada and the U.S. to take effective action to tackle and resolve environmental hazards that can impair health on both sides of the border."

Strong scientific evidence points to serious health risks from smog, including increased hospital admissions and premature death. Recent health and environmental studies in both countries confirm that adverse effects from ozone exposure can occur at concentrations much lower than previously thought.

The negotiations, which both countries hope to complete in 2000, will take place under the 1991 Canada-U.S. Air Quality Agreement, and will result in a ground-level ozone annex to the agreement. The annex will contain commitments by both countries to reduce smog producing emissions such as nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) within their borders. About 50 percent of the ozone component of smog in the Windsor-Quebec City corridor and up to 90 percent in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia originate in the United States.

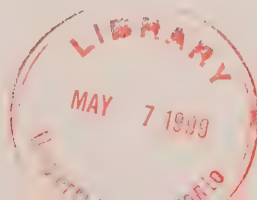
"All Canadians, especially those from Ontario through to Nova Scotia, will see direct health benefits from an ozone annex with the U.S.," said Minister Stewart. "This commitment between Canada and the United States to reduce air pollutants will demonstrate to both Canadians and Americans that cleaner and healthier air is a goal for both countries."

Minister Stewart also noted that the Government of Canada agreed to pursue negotiations with the United States following discussions with provincial Ministers of the Environment and Energy at their meeting in Halifax last October. "All governments in Canada agreed that ozone should be a priority issue for discussion with the United States," said Minister Stewart.



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Reducing the causes of smog is an air quality priority in Canada. The Phase 3 Federal Smog Plan under development, provincial smog programs already in place and the work of Canadian governments to set Canada-wide standards for ground-level ozone are each important facets of the Canadian response to air pollution.

Canada and the U.S. also released today a report from the Canada-U.S. Air Quality Committee on the transport of ground-level ozone (*Ground-Level Ozone: Occurrence and Transport in Eastern North America*). The report concludes that the "results offer clear evidence of the rationale for discussing an effective bi-national approach for management of ozone and its precursors in eastern North America."

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The report: *Ground-Level Ozone: Occurrence and Transport in Eastern North America*, is available on the Environment Canada (<http://www.ec.gc.ca>) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>) Internet sites.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

April 23, 1999

(11.20 a.m. EDT)

No. 88

## **APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT**

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointments of Harry W. Arthurs and Robert Pace to the Board of Directors of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (ICHRDD).

The ICHRDD is an independent body established by an Act of Parliament in 1988. It provides persons and organizations in other countries with training, consultation and research services to promote the observance of human rights and the full participation of all citizens in the democratic process. The Centre's Board of Directors is made up of 13 members, including three from countries other than Canada. The Centre's President is Warren Allmand, QC, PC.

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Biographical notes on the appointees are attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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(613) 995-1851

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874



## Biographical Notes

**Harry W. Arthurs** is a professor of law and political science, President Emeritus of York University and former Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School. Professor Arthurs previously served as a member of the Economic Council of Canada, a Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada (Ontario), President of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association and an Associate of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. He has chaired or served on many public, academic and professional bodies and labour tribunals, presided over the first national study of legal research and education in Canada, and led independent commissions of inquiry into the affairs of two Canadian universities.

His current research examines the responses of democratic institutions to the challenges of the new economy. Studies in this series include articles on Canadian and transnational labour market institutions, public administration, law firms, legal institutions and corporations. He has long-standing teaching and research experience in the fields of labour law, administrative law, legal pluralism, the sociology of law, the legal profession, legal education and legal history. He also speaks and writes on higher education policy and university governance.

Professor Arthurs is a graduate of the University of Toronto and Harvard Law School, and is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada. He is also a member of the Royal Society of Canada, an Officer of the Order of Canada and a member of the Order of Ontario. He has received five honorary degrees.

**Robert Pace** is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Pace Group Ltd. Pace Group employs approximately 500 full-time staff and 150 part-time staff and owns several companies including Maritime Broadcasting Systems Ltd.

Mr. Pace received a Bachelor of Arts (1975), a Masters of Business Administration (1977) and a Bachelor of Laws (1980) from Dalhousie University. He was called to the Nova Scotia Bar in 1981. Mr. Pace's work and directorship history reflect his commitment to his community, conservation and preservation of the environment, workplace quality and equality, fiscal and fiduciary responsibility, and economic diversity and prosperity. His past directorships include Canadian National and Canadian Health Care Consulting Services Ltd.



# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

April 23, 1999

(11:50 a.m. EDT)

No. 89

## APPOINTMENTS TO IDRC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointments of Dr. Octavio Gomez-Dantes, Dr. Francisco Sagasti and Dr. Rodger D. Schwass to the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

IDRC is a public corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 to help developing-country scientists and communities find solutions to social, economic and environmental problems through research. By bringing together people, institutions and ideas, IDRC seeks to ensure that the benefits of this research will be shared equitably among all its partners in both the northern and the southern hemispheres.

IDRC is directed by a 21-member Board of Governors comprising 11 Canadian members and 10 non-Canadian members.

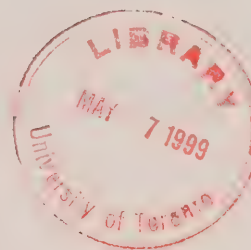
- 30 -

Biographical notes on the appointees are attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

**Dr. Octavio Gomez-Dantes** is currently Director of Health Policy at the Centre for Health Systems Research of the National Institute of Public Health of Mexico. He co-ordinates research activities in the health policy area.

Dr. Gomez-Dantes' recent research activities include projects on the decentralization of health services in Mexico and its impact on women's health; the magnitude of violence in Mexico City and its impact on health services; the weight of equity and fairness in Mexican health care reform; and the availability of essential drugs in rural units of Mexico's Ministry of Health.

Before taking up the position of Director of Health Policy, Dr. Gomez-Dantes co-ordinated a project on the future of international health, as well as a leadership forum for health aimed at senior officials in the Latin American and Caribbean health sectors.

Dr. Gomez-Dantes received his Masters in Public Health, Harvard School of Public Health (1989-90), and his Masters in Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health (1990-91). He has authored and co-authored numerous publications on health policy.

**Dr. Francisco Sagasti** is currently the President of *FORO Nacional/Internacional*, an institution that promotes dialogue, debate and consensus on critical development issues. He is also director of FORO's *Agenda: Peru* program of studies on development strategies. Previously, he was senior researcher and program director at the *Grupo de Analisis para el Desarrollo (GRADE)*, a Peruvian policy-oriented research institution. He was Chief of Strategic Planning at the World Bank from 1987 to 1990 and was Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development from 1988 to 1989. Dr. Sagasti was also advisor to the Peruvian Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Planning. He has been on numerous boards and committees including as a member of the Rector's Advisory Committee of the United Nations University, a member of the UNESCO science policy advisory committee and a member of the Board of the Peruvian National Council for Science and Technology.

Dr. Sagasti obtained his PhD at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1980, Dr. Sagasti received the United Nations Peace Medal and the Paul Hoffman Award of the Society for International Development for his "outstanding contributions to national and international development." He has published numerous papers and books on science and technology policy, systems analysis, management sciences, future research and development strategies.

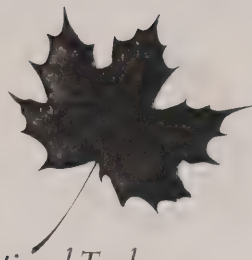


**Dr. Rodger D. Schwass** is Professor Emeritus and Senior Scholar at York University's Faculty of Environmental Studies, a position he has held since 1996. He has held numerous other positions at York University as Professor, Faculty of Environmental Studies; Director of the York University-University of Indonesia Environmental Management Training Project; Director, York University-University of Peshawar, Pakistan, Environmental Training Project; Director of the Faculty of Environmental Studies-University of Nairobi Project; and Dean, Faculty of Environmental Studies. Other positions include Vice-President, Acres Consulting; Vice-President, Hedlin Menzies and Associates; and National Secretary, Farm Radio Forum.

Dr. Schwass has been a member of numerous boards, including the Developing Countries Farm Radio Network; the CIDA/York University/Ontario Hydro/Province of Ontario Kenya-Canada Energy Advisory Project; the Banff Centre and Niagara Institute Advisory Committees; and the Humber College Board of Governors.

Dr. Schwass has done extensive work on the development of national conservation strategies in Pakistan, Jamaica, Tanzania, Kenya, Indonesia and China. He is the author of numerous reports, policy guidelines and articles, including *Institutional Linkages between Canada and the Third World*.

Dr. Schwass received his PhD from the University of Toronto in 1972.



International Trade  
Commerce internationale

# News Release

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

April 23, 1999

(3:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 90

## NAFTA COMMISSION JOINT STATEMENT

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi, along with United States Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky and Mexican Minister of Trade and Industrial Development Herminio Blanco, today released the Joint Statement of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Commission in Ottawa. This year's meeting celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Agreement.

The Minister also announced the launch of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's revamped NAFTA Web site, which can be accessed at the following address: [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/nafta-alena](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/nafta-alena)

- 30 -

The NAFTA Commission Joint Statement is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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## NAFTA COMMISSION: JOINT STATEMENT OF MINISTERS

### Five Years of Achievement

Ottawa, Canada

April 23, 1999

*Following the April 23 meeting of the North American Free Trade Agreement Commission meeting, Canadian Minister for International Trade Sergio Marchi, Mexican Minister of Trade and Industrial Development Herminio Alonso Blanco Mendoza and United States Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky are pleased to release the following Joint Statement which outlines the overall results:*

In this fifth anniversary year of the NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), the Commission welcomed the success of the Agreement and the benefits it has brought to the people and economies of Canada, the United States and Mexico. We reaffirmed the value and the importance of the NAFTA to our three countries. The numbers speak for themselves. Trade between our three countries has grown by about 75% since the Agreement came into force. From less than US\$289 billion in 1993, our trilateral trade has now reached US\$507 billion. Investment between our three economies has also significantly increased, with more than US\$189 billion invested in each other's economies in 1997. Total foreign direct investment into the NAFTA countries has meanwhile reached US\$864 billion. Economic growth remains robust. Indeed, North America is the growth center of the global economy and our booming trade with one another has mitigated the economic impact of the financial crisis and consequent slowdown in growth in other parts of the world. Most importantly, job creation has surged in all three NAFTA countries, with employment levels now at record highs. Since the NAFTA was implemented, employment in Canada has grown by 10.1 percent (1.3 million jobs), by 22 percent (2.2 million jobs) in Mexico and by over 7 percent (12.8 million jobs) in the United States.

In short, NAFTA works. To commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Agreement, we are pleased to release a brochure that we developed together elaborating the benefits of the NAFTA. We also expressed our confidence that the resounding success of the NAFTA over its first five years will continue as NAFTA implementation opens new opportunities for trade and investment, bringing more benefits to companies, workers and consumers across North America.

In reviewing the results of the Operational Review of the NAFTA work program which we launched last year, we acknowledged the results achieved thus far across more than 20 committees, working groups, and additional subsidiary bodies. We welcomed the clear direction and priorities established through this process for the NAFTA work

program, and noted that the oversight structure put in place at our last meeting is working well.

We affirmed our commitment to the priorities agreed to in the context of the Operational Review and emphasized in particular the need to fulfil overdue commitments. We agreed to a number of activities in specific areas of the work program which are outlined in the Annex to this Joint Statement. We discussed a range of substantive issues, including certain provisions in chapter Eleven, transparency and openness in the NAFTA work program and land transportation. We agreed to continue discussions in these and other areas. We reaffirmed the value of continuing co-operation with our respective labour and environment ministries on issues of mutual interest.

In confirming our strong support for further regional and multilateral trade liberalization, we noted the important role that regional co-operation, including initiatives such as the NAFTA itself, can play in stimulating further multilateral trade liberalization. In this context, we discussed the value of enhanced co-operation among the NAFTA parties in advancing shared interests in wider regional and multilateral initiatives.

We looked forward to the forthcoming third session of the WTO Ministerial Conference, which will be hosted by the United States on November 30 - December 3, 1999, in Seattle. We committed to work closely in the coming months to provide critical direction and impetus to the development of the agenda for that meeting. We agreed that, at a time when international economic stability and growth are under challenge, it is especially important to signal support for the multilateral system and continued progress in opening markets and dismantling trade barriers. We confirmed our intention to work in Geneva to ensure that the preparatory process for Seattle be intensified so as to allow WTO Members to decide at their Third Ministerial Conference to launch negotiations for further liberalization sufficiently broad-based to respond to the range of interests and concerns of all Members within the WTO framework, and to conduct such negotiations in a timely manner. We also reaffirmed our interest in a prompt conclusion of this year's review of the Dispute Settlement Understanding in order to implement the results immediately thereafter and other ongoing work by the Seattle Ministerial.

Endorsing the continuing dismantling of trade barriers in the hemisphere, we welcomed in particular the progress to establish a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). We reiterated our commitment to reaching an agreement by the year 2005 that is balanced, comprehensive, WTO-consistent, and which constitutes a single undertaking. At a time of continuing volatility on world financial markets, we underlined the importance of these negotiations for staying the course on market opening and sustaining the momentum for further regional and global trade liberalization. We reaffirmed our commitment to achieving concrete progress in the FTAA negotiations by the end of the century, and

agreed to work toward maximum progress in developing the annotated outlines of the Chapters of the Agreement by the time of the Toronto Ministerial in November 1999. We undertook to redouble our efforts to work with our partners in the hemisphere to approve, and to the extent possible implement a substantive package of business facilitation measures in the context of the Toronto Ministerial in the area of customs procedures as well as other areas which have been identified as a high priority by our respective private sectors. We discussed the importance of transparency in the negotiations of the FTAA, and will consider in Toronto the report of the FTAA Committee of Government Representatives on the Participation of Civil Society.

With respect to APEC, we reaffirmed our commitment to the Bogor Declaration goals of achieving a free and open trade and investment regime in the Asia Pacific region. During the last Leaders and Ministers Meeting, held in Kuala Lumpur last November, and despite the economic difficulties faced by several members, APEC economies reaffirmed the need for open markets and an enabling environment for investment. We reiterated our support for APEC's commitment to uphold and strengthen the multilateral trading system.

In reviewing the success of our first five years together and the scope of ongoing co-operation in the NAFTA, we also stressed the importance of looking forward to emerging challenges and opportunities. The global economy and technological change will continue to transform the conduct of business in North America. We agreed to work together to develop a common vision for North American trade and investment as we head into the new century with a view to ensuring that the NAFTA continues as a force for creating economic opportunity. We asked Deputies to engage in a dialogue on the challenges ahead and possible future initiatives within the NAFTA framework in order to enhance our future co-operation, and agreed to explore areas for enhanced co-operation in promoting opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises.

We agreed that the United States will host the next NAFTA Commission Meeting at the Ministerial level in the spring of the year 2000.





## **Annex to the Joint Statement of Ministers: Commission Actions**

In accordance with its mandate to oversee the implementation and further elaboration of the NAFTA, on April 23, 1999 the sixth annual meeting of the Free Trade Commission established pursuant to this Agreement:

### **Tariff Acceleration**

- Noted the successful implementation of a second set of accelerated tariff reductions on August 1, 1998, welcomed new procedures for future industry-led requests for accelerated tariff elimination developed by the Committee on Trade in Goods and agreed to notify them publicly in the three countries through appropriate domestic procedures;

### **Border Facilitation**

- Received and will make public the report from the Committee on Trade in Goods prepared pursuant to Article 316.3 of the NAFTA, which provides an overview of ongoing work and accomplishments within NAFTA countries in terms of trade facilitation at the border, and directed officials to identify where improvements can be made to the movement of goods at the border;
- Agreed to pursue domestic procedures to consider the addition of actuaries to the list of professionals under the NAFTA temporary entry provisions;
- Noted the agreement in the Working Group on Rules of Origin on a package of technical rectifications to the NAFTA rules of origin, and urged that this process be completed as soon as possible;

### **Agricultural Co-operation**

- Recognizing the trilateral nature of issues arising in the agricultural grade and marketing standards area and to ensure a more co-ordinated approach to those issues, agreed pursuant to Article 2001.3(a) to establish a NAFTA Working Group on Agricultural Grading and Marketing Standards – superseding the previously constituted bilateral working groups in these areas – to review and resolve issues regarding the operation of grade and quality standards and to report annually to the Committee on Agricultural Trade;

- Agreed to establish pursuant to Article 2001.3(a) a Working Group on Tariff-Rate-Quota (TRQ) Administration, which will exchange data on TRQs and discuss issues related to the administration of TRQs and report annually to the Committee on Agricultural Trade;
- Took note of the decision by the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to recognize eight new Technical Working Groups with formal relationships to the SPS Committee, and looked forward to substantive progress in each of these areas: Animal Health; Plant Health; Dairy, Fruits, Vegetables and Processed Foods; Meat, Poultry and Egg Inspection; Pesticides; Food Additives and Contaminants; Fish and Fishery Products; Veterinary Drugs and Feeds;

### **Alternative Dispute Resolution**

- Endorsed the progress achieved in working towards establishing, among the NAFTA countries, a voluntary, industry-driven private commercial dispute resolution system for trade in certain perishable agricultural products (fruits and vegetables), welcomed the recent agreement among industry representatives from Canada, Mexico and the United States to establish five new industry-led working groups to develop during the course of 1999 the elements of a comprehensive proposal for putting this dispute resolution system in place, and encouraged its timely completion;
- Looked forward to the Conference on Alternative Dispute Resolution being sponsored by the Advisory Committee on Private Commercial Disputes to be held in June in Mexico City to raise awareness, particularly among judges and business persons, of arbitration and other procedures for resolving private international commercial disputes in the NAFTA free trade area.



# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

April 23, 1999

(5:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 91

## SENATOR (SISTER) PEGGY BUTTS TO ATTEND MEMORIAL FOR BISHOP JUAN GERARDI

Senator (Sister) Peggy Butts will travel to Guatemala to represent Canada at the commemorative activities marking the first anniversary of the death of Bishop Juan Gerardi. Bishop Gerardi, a prominent Guatemalan human rights defender, was assassinated on April 26, 1998. The memorial is being organized by the Catholic Archdiocese of Guatemala.

The participation of Senator Butts in the commemoration ceremonies re-affirms Canada's commitment to the promotion of human rights in Guatemala. As a further indication of Canada's commitment to democratic consolidation in Guatemala, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today acknowledged the Government of Guatemala's response to the Guatemalan Historical Clarification Commission on the atrocities and crimes committed between 1962 and 1996 in that country.

"As Guatemala moves toward greater respect for human rights and democracy," said Mr. Axworthy, "clarifying the terrible things that happened in Guatemala provides a means for all Guatemalans to promote healing and reconciliation among the victims of the civil conflict. Canada strongly encourages the Government of Guatemala to implement the Truth Commission Report's recommendations in a meaningful way."

Although the Minister welcomed the Government of Guatemala's response to the report, he expressed some concern over the fact that the Government of Guatemala had not accepted all of the Commission's recommendations.

In addition, Minister Axworthy announced that Canada will provide \$30 000 from the Peacebuilding Program to support the efforts of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA). Canada's contribution will be used to promote knowledge and understanding of the contents and implications of the Commission's report among the people of Guatemala, particularly in rural areas. Canada has already provided over \$600 000 for the work of the Commission in Guatemala.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

April 26, 1999

(2:50 p.m. EDT)

No. 92

## CANADA TO APPEAL WTO RULING ON TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS CANADA

Canada will appeal a World Trade Organization (WTO) report that found that Technology Partnerships Canada (TPC) support for regional aircraft is a prohibited export subsidy, International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Industry Minister John Manley announced today.

"We believe the panel report contains serious errors in its interpretation of WTO rules concerning subsidies," said Minister Marchi. "Canada intends to contest these errors before the WTO appellate body."

"The panel's interpretation of a prohibited export subsidy discriminates against export-oriented industries," said Minister Manley. "This is inconsistent with the intent and the negotiating history of the WTO agreement, and is harmful to Canada as well as other WTO members that have small open economies dependent on trade."

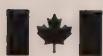
The government will not appeal a second WTO decision concerning Canada Account lending for regional aircraft.

"There is no need to appeal the ruling on Canada Account lending for regional aircraft. This ruling can be fully implemented without significant effect on Canadian exporters," said Minister Marchi.

On March 12, 1999, the WTO ruled in Canada's favour on 8 of 10 grounds and declared that PROEX, a Brazilian export program, was a prohibited subsidy that must be withdrawn without delay.

The WTO appellate body will make a decision on Canada's appeal by early August.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

April 28, 1999

(10:10 a.m. EDT)

No. 93

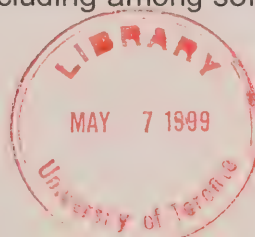
## AXWORTHY TO ATTEND FIRST MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE TREATY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he will attend the First Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, which will take place from May 3 to 7 in Maputo, Mozambique — one of the world's most severely mine-affected countries. The meeting has been convened under the auspices of the United Nations and will be chaired by Dr. Leonardo Simão, Foreign Minister of Mozambique.

"The Maputo Conference is a key step in entrenching the new international norm against these weapons," said Mr. Axworthy. "This meeting takes on increased importance and urgency as we confront the tragedy of continued and new mine use in places such as Kosovo and Angola. While in Maputo, I will be discussing strategies with governments and NGOs to meet the long-term challenge of clearing these lands and helping the victims so that people can safely and quickly return to their homes once the fighting is over."

The Maputo Conference will be the first formal gathering of signatories to the Mine Ban Convention, which entered into force on March 1, 1999. Participants will focus on how the Convention has worked to date, identify the needs of mine-affected states and address the challenges related to the global mine problem. They will also outline ways in which the international community can work together to eliminate this continuing humanitarian threat, particularly through the UN Mine Action Service. States may also submit requests for international assistance and may call upon fellow signatories to account for violations of the treaty's provisions.

The global NGO community, working under the auspices of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, will use the occasion to issue its first *Landmine Monitor*, a non-governmental assessment of treaty compliance and progress on mine action. Canada has contributed to the development and publication of this independent, comprehensive study. The First Meeting of States Parties will take place at a time of renewed concerns about landmine use in several conflict zones, including among some states that have signed the treaty.



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"We are extremely concerned about reports of anti-personnel mines being used and call on those responsible to stop now," said Mr. Axworthy. "But at the same time, we have to recognize that it is largely because of the treaty that we are even hearing about these incidents."

Already, 135 countries have signed the treaty and 76 have ratified it. The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, known as the Ottawa Convention, opened for signature December 3, 1997.

Mr. Axworthy will stop briefly on May 4 in Pretoria and Johannesburg, South Africa, on his way back to Canada. He will meet with South Africans to discuss the upcoming elections in their country as well as measures to counter the excessive accumulation and transfer of small arms within the region. Mr. Axworthy will also review Canadian development projects.

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A backgrounder on Canadian mine action in Mozambique is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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## **Backgrounder**

# **CANADIAN MINE ACTION IN MOZAMBIQUE**

### **The Mine Problem in Mozambique**

Current estimates place the remaining number of anti-personnel mines in Mozambican soil at between 250 000 and 500 000. The most heavily affected areas are the border with Zimbabwe, the central provinces of Sambezia and Tete, and the southern provinces of Maputo and Inhambane.

In recent years, dramatic progress has been made in both mine clearance and victim assistance:

- According to the Mozambican Foreign Ministry, a total of 54 016 mines, of which 53 624 were anti-personnel, have been deactivated since 1992. The removal of these mines has resulted in the clearing of 10 570 hectares of land, 7718 kilometres of roads, 1824 kilometres of power lines and 90 kilometres of railway lines.
- Handicap International estimates that the annual incidence of new mine victims has fallen from between 600 and 720 in 1995 to 83 in 1998.

### **Canada's Response**

Canada's funding for mine action in Mozambique is through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Within the \$100 million Landmine Fund announced by Canada in December 1997, \$10.5 million has been committed to Mozambique over a five-year time frame.

In addition, CIDA is supporting an integrated mine action project of the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) and Co-operation Canada Mozambique (COCAMO). Total CIDA support for this project over three years will be just over \$1.25 million. The CAW will contribute an equal amount for a total of over \$2.5 million in joint funding.

The principal CIDA mine action initiative consists of three components:

- the provision of technical assistance to the United Nations Development Program's Accelerated Demining Program (UNDP/ADP) — three Department of National Defence technical advisers are helping to build local capacity through survey and data base training;

- a Geomatics/Geospatial Information Program for the production of maps that are essential for mine action — Geomatics Canada (a division of Natural Resources Canada) has been selected to manage and implement the mapping component of the project; and
- the organization and implementation of a Level One General Survey aimed at gathering information on the general location of suspected or mined areas — this work will be undertaken by the Canadian International Demining Centre, a Canadian NGO.

The CAW/CIDA/COCAMO partnership project has three active components:

- a proximity demining program in Inhambane province, in collaboration with Handicap International;
- support for transit centres in Nampula and Inhambane provinces that provide prostheses and ongoing care for mine accident survivors; and
- community-based mine awareness and advocacy activities to help decrease the risk of incidents and rehabilitate mine-affected communities — these are carried out in co-operation with a number of locally based NGOs.

# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

April 28, 1999

(11:40 a.m. EDT)

No. 94

## AXWORTHY TRAVELS INTERNATIONALLY TO EXPLORE DIPLOMATIC SOLUTIONS TO THE KOSOVO CRISIS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will visit Russia, Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia) and Egypt, April 29 to May 2, to explore how the international community can address the humanitarian situation in Kosovo and how a diplomatic resolution to the crisis can be reached.

Minister Axworthy will meet with Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov in Moscow on April 30 to review recent Russian efforts related to Kosovo, recognizing that both NATO and Russia have a strong interest in bringing long-term stability to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and to the Balkans region.

"The five conditions Mr. Milosevic must accept have been clearly set out by NATO, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan and the European Union. I will be seeking to develop a common view with Russia of what needs to be done to convince Mr. Milosevic to accept these conditions," Mr. Axworthy said. "Russian engagement is essential to allow the UN Security Council to play its role in the search for peace."

While in Moscow, Minister Axworthy will also meet with Mr. Annan. They will discuss possible UN and Security Council action to address the humanitarian crisis in and around Kosovo. Canada advocates an active Security Council role in helping to resolve the Kosovo crisis and recognizes that Russia, as a permanent member holding a veto over Security Council actions, has a crucial role to play.

Mr. Axworthy leaves Russia for Athens on April 30, where he plans to meet with Greek Foreign Minister George Papandreou. Greece, a NATO member, has played an important role in seeking to relieve the humanitarian crisis afflicting its immediate neighbours, Albania and FYR Macedonia, and Mr. Axworthy wishes to benefit from Greece's assessment of the requirements for maintaining stability in the region.

"At last weekend's Summit in Washington, NATO members met with representatives of the countries immediately surrounding Yugoslavia," said Mr. Axworthy. "The clear message, which I intend to reiterate in my upcoming meetings, was one of solidarity, in terms of both



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the front-line states' support for NATO's current action and NATO's resolve to support the immediate needs of these countries as well as their long-term political and economic stability."

Mr. Axworthy will be in Skopje, FYR Macedonia, May 1, where he will review with government leaders the social and financial pressures that have been placed on the country by the large influx of refugees driven by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from Kosovo. Mr. Axworthy will visit the Stenkovec refugee camp, where he will get a first-hand view of conditions and meet with Canadian aid workers. His visit follows the tour of the region earlier in the current conflict by Canada's special envoy Raphael Girard, Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and FYR Macedonia.

Later on May 1, Mr. Axworthy will travel to Cairo, Egypt, where he will meet with his counterpart, Foreign Minister Amr Moussa, and seek his assessment of the conflict from his perspective as senior statesman of the Arab world. As a member of the Non-Aligned Movement, Egypt can play an important role in the efforts of the United Nations to alleviate the humanitarian crisis.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

April 30, 1999

(6:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 95

## AXWORTHY STRENGTHENS SANCTIONS AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced today that additional Canadian sanctions are being imposed on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia which will permit Canada to prohibit sales of all goods.

Yugoslavia will be added to the Area Control List under the Export and Import Permits Act. Canada has long denied military goods to Yugoslavia. By now placing it on the Area Control List, all exports from Canada to Yugoslavia will require a permit.

"Canada's objectives are clear. We wish, in concert with our NATO allies, to stop the campaign of terror and ethnic cleansing, and to bring about a settlement in Kosovo that will include the withdrawal of Yugoslav forces from the province, the establishment of an international military presence, the safe return of refugees to Kosovo, and the implementation of a political framework for the autonomy of Kosovo," said Mr. Axworthy. "The Controls announced today will help us to achieve these ends by denying any and all Canadian goods to the Yugoslav war machine."

Canada has already imposed extensive economic measures against Yugoslavia to implement multilateral sanctions decisions. The United Nations Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Regulations continue to enforce the freeze of assets of the former Yugoslavia, mandated by the United Nations Security Council, pending agreement by the various successor states on the division of those assets. These Regulations also implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1160 (1998), which prohibits the sale or supply of arms and related material to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Pursuant to the May 1998 decision by the G-8 Foreign Ministers, the Special Economic Measures (Federal Republic of Yugoslavia) Regulations impose a freeze on the assets of the governments of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and of Serbia and a ban on investments in Serbia.

In addition to these regulatory measures, Mr. Axworthy announced on March 9, 1998, other measures, including:



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- instructing Export Development Corporation of Canada (EDC) to suspend consideration of export credits for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia until further notice;
- suspending discussions with Yugoslav Airlines-JAT concerning charter landing rights in Canada; and
- putting on hold until further notice discussions regarding other bilateral agreements.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

May 3, 1999

(3:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 96

## AXWORTHY CALLS FOR POST-CONFLICT MINE ACTION CAPABILITY IN AREAS SUCH AS KOSOVO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today attending the First Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention ("the Ottawa Convention") in Maputo, Mozambique, called on the international community to develop a capacity for rapid, co-ordinated humanitarian mine action in post-conflict situations. The Minister arrived in Mozambique after speaking with refugees on Saturday at the Stenkovic 1 camp, in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

"The refugees I met all relayed horror stories of how their lives have been shattered by ethnic cleansing," said Minister Axworthy. "This tragedy is compounded by the fact that their lands are now being mined. The international community must be ready to respond urgently to ensure that when the time comes, they can return to their homes in safety."

In his speech to the conference, the Minister noted that many of the mine action resources needed already exist, but stressed the need to be able to mobilize and co-ordinate those resources in order to respond quickly to mine action needs in post-conflict situations.

The Minister also hosted a luncheon meeting of a number of ministers, senior officials and non-governmental organizations to discuss how this rapid-response capacity might be applicable in Kosovo and other countries. The discussion drew on the experience of countries such as Mozambique and Cambodia, which have had to develop post-conflict mine action plans.

Some of the ideas put forward by Mr. Axworthy for discussion at the luncheon included improving information gathering from refugees and other sources to identify demining priorities, quick assembly and dispatch of survey and assessment teams, ongoing identification of equipment and personnel available for mine action, and the need to ensure mine awareness training for refugees and those involved in their resettlement.

The meeting was also attended by the United Nations Deputy Secretary-General Louise Frechette. Minister Axworthy invited the UN, already active in co-ordinating



international efforts through the UN Mine Action Service, to take a lead role in working with interested countries to develop a rapid-response mine action capacity.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

May 5, 1999

(5:20 p.m. EDT)

No. 97

## CANADA WELCOMES AGREEMENT ON EAST TIMOR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan welcomed the agreement on East Timor signed today by Indonesia and Portugal at the United Nations. The agreement sets out a plan for wide-ranging autonomy, which will be proposed to the East Timorese through a UN-sponsored ballot on August 8, 1999, and will establish a UN presence in East Timor in preparation for that ballot.

"This agreement is welcome news. Canada has always advocated the UN-sponsored process as the best means to resolve the East Timor issue," said Minister Axworthy. "We will continue to support East Timor's peaceful transition, both under the auspices of the UN and at the grass-roots level."

The agreement sets out the autonomy plan that will be proposed to the East Timorese in a direct democratic ballot on August 8. It also covers the modalities of the ballot itself and the security provisions for a UN presence in the period leading up to and during the ballot. The agreement calls for the deployment of civilian police officers under UN command who will act as advisers in East Timor, in addition to electoral personnel and observers. The first contingent of UN personnel is expected to arrive in East Timor in mid-May in order to assess various aspects of the situation on the ground, including security.

"This agreement is a major breakthrough for all parties concerned," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan. "It is a welcome addition to the cease-fire agreement between pro- and anti-independence groups signed two weeks ago in East Timor. We look to all signatories to this agreement to ensure an immediate end to the violence. We hope that, taken together, these two agreements mark a new and enduring phase of peace and reconciliation for the people of East Timor."

As the third-largest international donor to East Timor, Canada provides about \$1.2 million in assistance annually, all of which is channelled through non-governmental organizations by the Canadian International Development Agency. In view of the recent progress at the UN and today's signing, Canada is examining a range of options for further assistance to East Timor.

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

May 5, 1999

(6:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 98

## AXWORTHY TO ATTEND BONN MEETING OF G-8 FOREIGN MINISTERS ON KOSOVO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will attend a special meeting of Group of Eight (G-8) Foreign Ministers in Bonn on May 6 to review the continuing conflict in Kosovo and discuss diplomatic efforts to secure an end to the crisis.

The meeting will allow Ministers to take stock of present efforts to bring about Yugoslav President Milosevic's acceptance of the five conditions necessary for peace.

The five conditions required to bring to an end the current NATO campaign against Yugoslavia are:

- an end to "ethnic cleansing";
- withdrawal of Yugoslav forces;
- the establishment of an international force to ensure the security of the people of Kosovo;
- unconditional return of refugees under the protection of the international force; and
- a framework for the political autonomy of the people of the province of Kosovo.

"Canada is determined to see the Kosovo crisis resolved through respect for the conditions established by the international community," said Mr. Axworthy. "The obstinacy of the Milosevic regime is preventing a resolution of the conflict in the interests of the people of Kosovo. I will be discussing with my counterparts ways by which we can most effectively move the diplomatic process forward."

The Minister emphasized, however, that NATO will not ease its military campaign against Yugoslavia. He noted that, in the current instance, the use of force and diplomatic initiatives are complementary.

The G-8 consists of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States and Russia.

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# News Release

International Trade  
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www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

May 6, 1999

(4:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 99

## APPOINTMENTS TO THE CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced the appointment of Douglas Patriquin as President of the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC), and the re-appointments of Helen Gillespie, Leonard McNeil, André Trépanier, John Banigan and Kathryn McCallion to the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

**Douglas Patriquin** has been CCC Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer since 1993. Prior to joining the Corporation, he served as Assistant Secretary at Treasury Board of Canada (1988-93), General Director and Secretary-General of Energy Options at Energy, Mines and Resources Canada (1986-88), and Assistant Deputy Minister at the Saskatchewan Department of Energy and Mines (1982-86).

**Helen Gillespie** is Vice-President, Contract Packing Services, of Sweet Ripe Drinks Ltd. of Mississauga.

**Leonard McNeil** is Partner, Financial Services Group, with Grant Thornton of Halifax/Dartmouth.

**André Trépanier** is Partner and Chartered Accountant with KPMG Canada in Montréal.

**John Banigan** is an Assistant Deputy Minister, Industry Sector, at Industry Canada.

**Kathryn McCallion** is Assistant Deputy Minister, International Business, Passport and Consular Affairs at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and Canada's Chief Trade Commissioner.

Canadian Commercial Corporation is wholly owned by the Government of Canada. It provides a wide range of export contracting services to help Canadian exporters land and complete international sales contracts. In 1997-98, CCC received orders worth over \$1 billion on behalf of Canadian exporters from customers in 48 countries and 11 international organizations.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

May 6, 1999

(6:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 100

## CHAN MEETS WITH INDONESIAN LABOUR LEADER

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today met with Indonesian labour leader Muchtar Pakpahan to discuss political and economic developments in Indonesia.

"I am happy to have this opportunity to meet again with Mr. Pakpahan, whom I first met during my visit to Indonesia last October," said Mr. Chan. "Mr. Pakpahan has earned great respect from many Canadians for his international role in advocating democracy in Indonesia."

Muchtar Pakpahan was General Chairman of the independent trade union Serikat Buruh Sejahtera Indonesia when he was imprisoned by the Soeharto government under anti-subversion laws for his comments on the riots of July 1996. Mr. Pakpahan's case focussed international attention on that government's treatment of trade unions and its infringement of freedoms of expression and assembly. He was released by the Indonesian government on May 25, 1998, along with several other political prisoners.

Mr. Pakpahan's labour union has sponsored the creation of a political party to contest the upcoming June 7 general election in Indonesia, and he campaigns widely on its behalf. In 1994, his independent trade union was provided financial assistance for leadership training by Canada. In 1997, a Canadian medical team flew to Jakarta to assist in diagnosing the then-detained trade union leader's medical condition.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

May 7, 1999

(10:25 a.m. EDT)

No. 101

## CHAN TO VISIT BANGLADESH

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that he will lead a business delegation to Bangladesh on May 16 and 17, 1999.

"Bangladesh has made great strides in diversifying its economy over the last decade. While Bangladeshis continue to struggle with many developmental and environmental challenges, their spirit of entrepreneurship has fostered active trade between our two countries," said Mr. Chan. "I am greatly encouraged by this evolution. Canada has much to offer to Bangladesh in the way of goods and services, and I look forward to bringing together business interests from both countries to enhance our ties."

During the visit, Mr. Chan will be accompanied by a business delegation including representatives of the oil and gas, power, transportation, pulp and paper, and engineering sectors. While in Dhaka, the Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) will meet with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina Wajed, and senior members of her cabinet, including the Ministers of Finance, Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Industry. Mr. Chan will also tour an education project funded by the Canadian International Development Agency.

In 1998, two-way trade between Canada and Bangladesh amounted to \$250 million. Canada's exports to Bangladesh were worth \$110 million last year, an increase of almost 15 percent over the previous year. Imports from Bangladesh amounted to \$140 million.

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan will also make brief visits to Islamabad and New Delhi en route to Bangladesh. He will meet with senior government officials in both capitals.

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A list of the businesses represented in the delegation accompanying Mr. Chan is attached.

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**CANADIAN COMPANIES PARTICIPATING IN  
THE BUSINESS DELEGATION TO BANGLADESH**

**Agra Inc.**

Oakville, Ontario

**Niko Ressources Ltd.**

Calgary, Alberta

**Bacan International (Trading Company)**

North York, Ontario

**Royal Canadian Mint**

Ottawa, Ontario

**Canarail**

Montréal, Québec

**SNC-Lavalin**

Montréal, Québec

**Fueling Technologies Inc.**

Concord, Ontario

**Sydney Steel Corp.**

Sydney, Nova Scotia

**Hydro-Québec International**

Montréal, Québec

**Tecsult**

Montréal, Québec

**Klockner Stadler Hurter (KSH)**

Montréal, Québec



# News Release

International Trade  
Commerce international

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

May 7, 1999

(1:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 102

## MARCHI TO VISIT JAPAN AND ATTEND QUAD MEETING

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi will visit Japan from May 10 to 12 to meet with leading Japanese government and business leaders, and to attend the 32nd Quadrilateral Trade Ministers' (QUAD) meeting. The Minister will also help to lay the groundwork for the upcoming Team Canada Mission to Japan and Australia this September.

"We want to let Canadian entrepreneurs know that substantial trade and investment opportunities continue to exist in Japan, despite the economic situation in Asia," said Minister Marchi. "We also want to reinforce the message to Japanese business that Canada is a desirable, high-tech location in which to invest."

Japan is Canada's second-largest trading partner. Two-way trade exceeded \$22 billion in 1998.

During the visit, Minister Marchi will meet with Kaoru Yosano, Japan's Minister of International Trade and Industry, Hirochi Okuda, Chairman of the Toyota Motor Corporation and the Japan-Canada Economic Committee of the Keidanren, and Noboru Hatakeyama, Chairman of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO).

The Minister will also meet with members of the press to publicize educational opportunities available to Japanese students in Canada. Canada is a cost-effective, safe place for Japanese students to receive high-quality education. More than 8600 Japanese studied in Canada in 1998, representing over 11 percent of all foreign students in Canada.

On Wednesday, May 12, Minister Marchi will meet with trade ministers from the European Union, Japan and the United States at the QUAD meeting in Tokyo to review recent developments in international trade and to continue the planning and preparation for the World Trade Organization ministerial conference in Seattle, Washington in November.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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International Trade  
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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

May 7, 1999

(1:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 103

## MARCHI TO LEAD BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO IRELAND

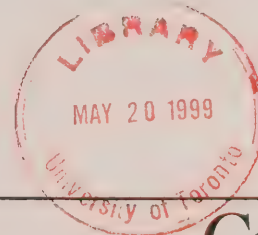
International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi will lead a business development mission to Ireland from June 13 to 15. Over 70 companies are expected to join the mission, which will coincide with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's official visit to Ireland.

"Canada and Ireland are both gateways to enormous continent-wide markets," said Minister Marchi. "This fact provides tremendous opportunities for Canadian and Irish companies to develop strategic business alliances, for both investment and trade."

The business development mission will focus on sectors that offer good business potential for Canadian companies, such as telecommunications, information technology and software development; agri-food; construction and building products; environmental services; and medical and health products. Another focus will be the cultural sector, notably for newer exporters of recorded music.

Mission participants will attend a special orientation program that will provide information on doing business in Ireland, profiles of their sector of interest, and opportunities to meet and network with potential business partners. Interested companies are invited to contact Peter McGovern, director of the Canadian Business Development Mission to Ireland, at (613) 944-2520 or by fax at (613) 996-3406 for more information.

Two-way trade between Canada and the "Celtic tiger" reached \$1.5 billion in 1998, a 100% increase since 1995. Canada exports mainly machinery and electronics, optical and medical instruments, wood and wood pulp, pharmaceutical products, aluminum and animal feed, while it imports chemicals, pharmaceutical and medical products, electronic components, machinery, aircraft parts, beverages and foods. Ireland is Canada's fourth-largest destination for foreign investment, which stood at approximately \$6.9 billion in 1997.



Minister Marchi will also travel to Brussels, where he will meet with members of the European Commission, and to Cologne where he will join the Prime Minister at the Canada-European Union Summit on June 17.

- 30 -

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# News Release

May 10, 1999

(2:20 p.m. EDT)

No. 104

## YOUTH WILL BE HEARD AT LA FRANCOPHONIE SUMMIT IN MONCTON

Minister for International Co-operation Minister and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau today expressed her satisfaction with the active participation of young Canadians in a series of consultations aimed at gathering their main concerns in preparation for La Francophonie Summit in Moncton, New Brunswick, next September.

"The participation by youth has been very encouraging," said the Minister. "They expressed their determination and their interest in looking for solutions to concerns of particular importance to young people from around the world."

Throughout the series of consultations, which started in mid-March, participants were mainly concerned with their immediate future. They expressed concerns over the difficulties inherent in integrating themselves into the workforce and over the utility of their secondary and post-secondary training in helping them meet this challenge. Young Canadians are also preoccupied with the environment and with the impact of globalization on the Canadian francophone community, particularly in the provinces where francophones are a minority.

The young participants discussed other national as well as international matters of direct concern, including education and training, employment issues, communications and new technologies, democratization and human rights, and international co-operation and development.

"Young people have expressed their concerns. They represent our future. I sincerely hope that the Moncton Summit will provide them with appropriate answers to their questions and, eventually, solutions," said Minister Marleau.

The Ottawa consultation, the last in a series of seven, brought together young people who had participated in the previous meetings, which took place in Edmonton, Saint-Boniface, Sudbury, Chéticamp, Bouctouche and Shawinigan. The consultation sessions were



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organized by the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development in co-operation with the Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française, an organization representing youth associations in Canada.

- 30 -

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site:  
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# News Release

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

May 10, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 105

## CANADA HOSTS THE FIRST CANADA-U.S. BUSINESSWOMEN'S TRADE SUMMIT

The first-ever Canada-U.S. Businesswomen's Trade Summit will bring together about 250 women from both sides of the border from May 17 to 21 in Toronto, International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi announced today. The Minister will co-chair the Summit, along with the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, William Daley, and the Administrator of U.S. Small Business Administration, Aida Alvarez.

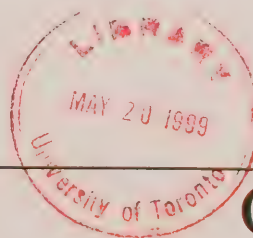
The Summit, which will be the largest event of its kind in the world promoting women entrepreneurs, will include seminars on international trade issues and policies, with a view to making recommendations to the Canadian and U.S. governments. The Summit is also a commitment stemming from the Canadian Businesswomen's Trade Mission that Minister Marchi led to Washington, D.C., in November 1997.

"Women-owned businesses already employ over 1.7 million people and are creating jobs at four times our national rate," said Minister Marchi. "This Summit will give participants the opportunity to share ideas, resources and best practices — essential knowledge for those looking beyond Canada's border for the chance to compete internationally."

The co-chairs will sign a Joint Co-operative Declaration to promote cross-border trade for women-owned small and medium-sized enterprises, and will also witness new business deals to be signed between Canadian and U.S. firms led by women.

The Summit will allow Canadian businesswomen to develop cross-border business in order to capture a larger share of the lucrative U.S. export market, and will also provide significant networking, partnering and marketing opportunities for its delegates.

A joint initiative between the Canadian and U.S. governments, the Summit also has substantial sponsorship from the private sector, including The Royal Bank of Canada and Federal Express Canada. Fifteen other private sector companies are also supporting the event.





More information about the Summit can be found on the Internet at  
[www.businesswomensummit.com](http://www.businesswomensummit.com)

- 30 -

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Robert MacLean/Nicola Moore  
Canada Porter Novelli  
(416) 925-4825

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## NEWS RELEASE

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May 11, 1999

(9:55 a.m. EDT)

No. 107

### CANADA APPOINTS FACILITATOR TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SECTOR DISCUSSION OF VOLUNTARY BUSINESS CODES OF CONDUCT

The Government of Canada has appointed University of Waterloo professor John English to facilitate exploratory discussions among interested business, labour and non-governmental organizations on the issue of voluntary codes of conduct to guide Canadian businesses when choosing foreign suppliers.

Professor English has identified interested parties who can contribute to these discussions and who will meet today in Toronto to develop a preliminary work program and timetable, and to explore possible options.

The appointment of a facilitator responds to public concern regarding production conditions of consumer goods sold in Canada.

Dr. English was selected by Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Labour Minister Claudette Bradshaw. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Human Resources Development Canada – Labour Program, and other federal departments will be involved in these discussions in an advisory capacity.

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This appointment reflects the Canadian government's commitment to encouraging domestic and international partnerships that promote fair and equitable global business practices.

- 30 -

A biographical note on Dr. English is attached.

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Professor John English  
(519) 745-5957

This document is also available on the Department's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



### **Biographical Note**

John English is a professor of history and political science at the University of Waterloo and director of the University's Centre on Foreign Policy and Federalism. He has been associated with the University since 1972. Mr. English has won several writing awards for his books, essays and articles on Canadian politics and sustainable development. Between 1993 and 1997, he was the Member of Parliament for Kitchener, Ontario, where he served on several committees, including as Vice-Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade. From 1997 to 1998, he served as special adviser on anti-personnel mines to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and was the Deputy Chair of the 1997 Ottawa conference that resulted in the treaty banning anti-personnel mines. Professor English holds a BA from the University of Waterloo and a PhD from Harvard University.



# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

May 13, 1999

(11:40 a.m. EDT)

No.108

## CHAN MEETS WITH PAKISTANI FEDERAL MINISTERS

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan met on May 12 with Pakistani federal ministers in Islamabad. He discussed a wide variety of important bilateral issues with Muhammad Siddique Khan Kanju, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Khalid Anwar, Minister of Law; and Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Minister of Finance.

In his meetings, Mr. Chan reiterated Canada's ongoing concern over Pakistan's nuclear tests last May and urged Pakistan to sign the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. He noted that Canada welcomed the recent warming in Indo-Pakistani relations as exemplified in the Lahore Declaration, issued at the time of the February 1999 visit of the Indian Prime Minister with his Pakistani counterpart. Mr. Chan added his hope that this would lead to an improvement in the overall security situation in South Asia.

While discussing human rights in Pakistan, the Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) emphasized Canada's concerns about the application of the blasphemy law, women's rights and the treatment of Ahmadis, including the arrest of their leader Mizra Masroor Ahmad. He also touched on issues related to freedom of the press. Mr. Chan specifically raised serious concern over the arrest of newspaper editor Najam Sethi from his home in Lahore.

Mr. Chan had a frank and free exchange on the state of Pakistan's economy and the prospects for strengthening bilateral trade ties. He stressed that while Canadian companies continue to be interested in the Pakistani market, the ongoing difficulties facing independent power producers, which affect several Canadian firms, have created an unnecessary sense of uncertainty for foreign investors in Pakistan.

In each of the meetings, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan noted the Canadian government's commitment to its development assistance partnership with Pakistan. At the same time he indicated Canada's interest in enhancing ties, as and when differences on nuclear policy and the power sector are progressively settled.

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

May 14, 1999

(9:45 a.m. EDT)

No. 109

## AXWORTHY TO ATTEND MINISTERIAL MEETING ON HUMAN SECURITY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will attend a ministerial meeting in Bergen, Norway, on May 19-20 to discuss an international approach to human security.

Mr. Axworthy will focus on the development of a shared vision of human security, and on a common agenda for international action over the coming year. The countries participating in the meeting are Canada, Norway, Austria, Chile, Ireland, Jordan, the Netherlands, Slovenia, South Africa, Switzerland, and Thailand.

The ministerial meeting builds on the Lysøen Declaration, a Canada-Norway agreement announced by Mr. Axworthy and his Norwegian counterpart, Knut Vollebaek, last May. Mr. Vollebaek is also Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

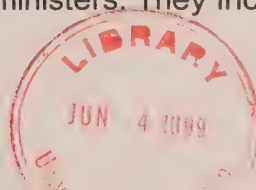
"This meeting aims to further promote and encourage the concept of human security," said Mr. Axworthy. "It is through multilateral partnerships that we can best increase international awareness and encourage the advancement of the human security agenda."

Mr. Axworthy also released today a concept paper outlining Canada's approach to human security in the international context. The paper, *Human Security: Safety for People in a Changing World*, provides a conceptual foundation for the Bergen discussions and a guide for future initiatives on human security.

"Canada is already working with other countries to develop a concrete international agenda on specific human security issues such as small arms, landmines and children in armed conflict," said Mr. Axworthy. "The paper further contributes to the development of a foreign policy that promotes the safety and security of people. It helps us to continue our work to strengthen existing partnerships while addressing new human security challenges."

In Norway, Minister Axworthy will also meet with Madame Sadako Ogata, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, who will attend the opening session as the keynote speaker.

Senior representatives from non-governmental and international organizations have been invited to the conference and will meet with the ministers. They include: Amnesty



International, Save the Children International, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Campaign to Ban Landmines, International Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, International Action Network on Small Arms.

Countries participating in the ministerial meeting on human security first met to discuss the concept of human security in New York last September at a lunch organized by Canada, and co-hosted by Mr. Axworthy and Mr. Vollebaek.

*Human Security: Safety for People in a Changing World* is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Web site.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

May 14, 1999

(12:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 110

## AXWORTHY TO VISIT PARIS TO REVIEW KOSOVO PEACE PROCESS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will meet with French Foreign Minister Hubert Védrine in Paris on May 18 to review diplomatic efforts to advance the Kosovo peace process and to discuss bilateral relations with France. He will then participate in a roundtable discussion on human security.

Mr. Axworthy will examine with Mr. Védrine the initiatives taken by Canada and France at the G-8, at the United Nations and in other forums aimed at achieving progress toward a diplomatic settlement of the current conflict. The Minister looks forward to reviewing the results of Mr. Védrine's and French President Jacques Chirac's diplomatic mission to Moscow this week.

"Canada and France are working closely at NATO, in the Security Council and in the G-8 process," said Mr. Axworthy. "We share with France the values and objectives that are behind NATO's actions, and we are both actively engaged in moving forward the diplomatic process in support of the general principles adopted last week by the G-8 Foreign Ministers."

At their May 6 meeting, the G-8 Foreign Ministers agreed on key principles for a political solution to the Kosovo crisis. Canada is determined to see the conflict settled according to the conditions established by the international community and through the United Nations Security Council.

Mr. Axworthy will also review with Mr. Védrine the progress made under the Program of Action signed in Ottawa last December during Prime Minister Jospin's visit. The document covers all aspects of the Canada-France relationship and is aimed at assuring closer co-operation on international issues. Minister Axworthy also plans to visit the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris, a showcase of Canadian arts and culture.

Mr. Axworthy will then travel to Bergen, Norway, on May 19 to 20, to attend a ministerial meeting on human security.

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

May 14, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 111

## CHAN IN INDIA

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan paid a one-day working visit to India on May 14, 1999.

During his visit to the Indian capital, New Delhi, Mr. Chan reviewed broad-ranging bilateral issues with Jaswant Singh, Minister for External Affairs; P.R. Kumaramangalam, Minister of Power and Parliamentary Affairs; and Shri Sompal, Minister of State for Agriculture and Water Resources. As well, Mr. Chan held meetings with senior politicians and business persons.

Mr. Chan repeated Canada's concerns about India's nuclear tests last May and once again urged India to sign the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty. With respect to regional security issues, he noted Canada's interest in recent improvements in Indo-Pakistani relations. He also welcomed the prospects for further co-operation between the two countries arising from the Lahore Declaration of February 1999.

The Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) also discussed co-operation between the Canadian Human Rights Commission and the National Human Rights Commission of India and encouraged India in its endeavours to resolve religious tensions.

In reference to trade and economic relations, Mr. Chan stressed that the Canadian government and the private sector are encouraged by India's effort to modernize its economy, privatize government holdings and attract foreign investment. He highlighted the significant contribution of Canadian companies to India's power sector over the last four decades and future opportunities for joint collaboration in several priority industrial sectors.

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# News Release

May 14, 1999

(5:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 112

## CANADA WILL REQUEST WTO AUTHORITY TO RETALIATE AGAINST THE EU

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief announced today that the Government will be requesting authorization from the World Trade Organization (WTO) to retaliate against the European Union (EU) for its continued ban on imports of Canadian beef.

In 1997, a WTO panel made it clear that the EU ban on beef produced with growth hormones is not based on science and therefore is inconsistent with the EU's WTO obligations. This finding was later confirmed by the WTO Appellate Body in 1998, and a WTO arbitrator gave the EU until May 13, 1999, to lift the ban. The EU has not met its deadline; therefore, Canada is exercising its WTO rights to suspend trade concessions to the EU.

"Canada plays by the rules, and expects others to do so as well," said Minister Marchi. "The WTO has ruled twice in our favour, yet the EU has failed to comply with the ruling. This is unacceptable."

Minister Marchi said Canada would be seeking authority to increase tariffs on selected products imported from the EU for approximately \$70 million worth of lost beef exports due to the ban. Under WTO rules, Canada has until June 12 to request this authority.

"Access to European markets is important to the growth of the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector," said Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief. "Our first preference is to resolve this dispute in a trade-enhancing manner; however, if we cannot find a mutually agreeable solution, we will not hesitate to exercise our WTO rights."

Under the WTO settlement process, if a WTO member does not comply with a WTO ruling, members can either reach an agreement on compensation or the aggrieved member can retaliate. Despite discussions in recent weeks, Canada and the EU have not come to an acceptable agreement on compensation.

On April 17, the Government of Canada announced a 30-day consultation period with



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Canadians on a proposed list of products that might be subject to tariff increases. The final list of products will be based on the comments received from the public and the level of retaliation authorized by the WTO Settlement Body.

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A backgrounder, including next steps, is attached.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



## Background

### History of the Dispute

- In 1989, the EU banned the use of growth promoting hormones in livestock and imposed a ban on the importation of meat derived from cattle treated with these hormones.
- Both Canada and the United States consistently opposed the import ban on the grounds that it was not based on scientific evidence and therefore created an unjustified barrier to trade.
- The Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization, which took effect in 1995, provided an opportunity for Canada to challenge the consistency of the EU ban under the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement).
- WTO Members, including Canada and the EU, negotiated the SPS Agreement to ensure that while countries have the right to provide the level of health protection they deem appropriate, sanitary and phytosanitary measures must be based on science and they should not be misused as disguised restrictions on trade.
- Canada conducted a review of all six growth-promoting hormones at issue and found them to be safe when used in accordance with good veterinary practices.
- Five of the six growth-promoting hormones at issue were reviewed and endorsed by the *Codex Alimentarius*, an international body established to set and harmonize food safety standards. It was determined that these hormones did not present a risk when used according to good veterinary practices.
- In July 1996, Canada held formal WTO consultations with the EU regarding the ban. The consultations were unsuccessful in resolving the dispute and Canada requested the establishment of a WTO dispute settlement panel. The panel was established in October 1996.
- The Panel released its final report in August 1997 which concluded that there was no justification for the ban and that the EU was in violation of its WTO obligations.
- The EU exercised its right under the dispute settlement procedures of the WTO and appealed the panel report in September 1998.
- The Appellate Body, which released its report on January 16, 1998, also concluded that there was no scientific basis for the ban and that the EU was in

violation of its WTO obligations.

- The Dispute Settlement Body of the WTO adopted the Panel and Appellate Body reports on February 13, 1998.
- Following the adoption of the reports, the EU sought 4 years to implement the rulings. Canada did not agree since it was well in excess of the 15-month guideline given to WTO members to implement rulings and the matter was referred to an arbitrator.
- The arbitrator concluded that there were no particular circumstances to justify giving the EU more than 15 months to implement the rulings and gave the EU until May 13, 1999, to bring its measure into compliance with its WTO obligations.
- To date, a mutually acceptable solution on compensation has not been found.
- On April 17, the federal government published a notice in the *Canada Gazette* to request comments on a proposal to increase tariffs of certain EU products in the event that it should become necessary to request authorization to retaliate.
- Interested parties have been given until May 17, 1999, to provide comments.

### **Next Steps**

- Canada has until June 12 to request authorization from the WTO Dispute Settlement Body to retaliate.
- The final list of products will be based on the comments received and the level of retaliation authorized by the WTO Dispute Settlement Body. Tariffs of 100 percent would be imposed on those products.
- The EU has the right under the WTO to object to the level of retaliation Canada is seeking.
- If there is no appeal, Canada will be in the position to impose tariffs once it has received authorization from the WTO Dispute Settlement Body. An announcement will be made prior to any tariff increases.
- If the EU does appeal, an arbitrator would be appointed to rule on the level of retaliation. The arbitrator would be given 60 days from May 13 (i.e. until July 12) to complete the arbitration.

- Canada would not be allowed to retaliate until the arbitration is completed.
- The arbitrator does not rule on the nature of retaliation. The arbitration is limited to the level of retaliation. The arbitrator's decision is final and cannot be appealed.
- Once the arbitrator has rendered a decision on the level of retaliation, Canada would have to request again authorization to retaliate, from the WTO Dispute Settlement Body, this time to a degree consistent with the arbitrator's decision.
- Once authorization has been received from the WTO Dispute Settlement Body, Canada is free to determine when it will impose tariffs on EU products. An announcement will be made prior to any tariff increases.





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# News Release

May 17, 1999

(10:45 a.m. EDT)

No. 113

## MINISTER MARLEAU TO VISIT BELGIUM AND FRANCE

The Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, Diane Marleau, will visit Belgium and France from May 17 to May 20. As President of the Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie, she will conduct strategy consultations in preparation for the Moncton Summit.

"It is important for Canada to concentrate its actions, together with the other sponsors in La Francophonie, in high-priority areas where progress must be made to prepare La Francophonie for the next millennium," said Madame Marleau.

Canada is determined to honour its long-standing human rights commitments. It will continue to give priority to new information technologies and to the economic aspects of co-operation, through projects that are often geared toward youth, the major theme of the Moncton Summit.

During her visit to Brussels, from May 17 to 19, the Minister will meet with officials of the Government of the French Community of Belgium and of the Belgium federal government.

While in Paris, on May 19 and 20, Madame Marleau will hold meetings with the Minister responsible for Co-operation and La Francophonie, Charles Josselin; the Secretary-General of La Francophonie, Boutros Boutros-Ghali; and the Chief Executive Officer of the Permanent Agency of La Francophonie, Roger Dehaybe.

In addition to the Summit preparations, the discussions will cover Canada's major objectives for Moncton as well as Canada's desire to maintain consistency in its major priorities and strategies. Talks will also focus on the importance of youth within La Francophonie and on Canada's support for the Francophonie Agency's multilateral programs aimed at improving, for example, human security and social and economic integration.

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This document is also available on the Department's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

May 18, 1999

(3:50 p.m. EDT)

No. 114

## SECRETARY OF STATE KILGOUR TO VISIT FOUR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour will travel to four African countries — Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic and Gabon — from May 17 to May 22. He will participate in bilateral talks on the issues and challenges facing Africa at the dawn of the third millennium including good governance, democratization, respect for human rights and human security.

"Canada and Africa have worked for a long time to forge a relationship based on friendship and mutual respect," said Mr. Kilgour. "These meetings will enable Canada and these African countries to strengthen our political and trade links."

The Secretary of State also plans to take advantage of this visit to support the efforts of Canadian firms currently doing business in the four African states or thinking of investing there. In Benin, for example, the privatization of government-owned companies and the development of the mining and petroleum sectors could be of interest to the Canadian private sector.

Cameroon, with its highly diversified economy, is an important partner in Canada's technical co-operation program. Cameroon's program of privatizing public institutions, particularly in the fields of energy resources and telecommunications, offers interesting investment opportunities. "I will support Canadian companies interested in obtaining one of the contracts that will be granted for the construction of the Chad-Cameroon pipeline," said Mr. Kilgour.

In the Central African Republic, Mr. Kilgour will visit with 50 Canadian peacekeepers based in Bangui who are providing communications support to the United Nations Mission to the Central African Republic (MINURCA). In preparation for the upcoming presidential elections, the Secretary of State is also planning to discuss with officials the follow-up to the Bangui Agreements and the National Reconciliation Pact.

The Secretary of State will seek to strengthen Canada's political links with Gabon, which is also currently a member of the UN Security Council. In addition, discussions will take place regarding Canadian technical co-operation, Canada's contribution to the improvement of



good governance, and follow-up to the efforts of Canadian companies, namely in the oil, wood and mining sectors, where many industrial and commercial partnership projects are ongoing. Both countries are currently negotiating a double taxation agreement and are expecting to initiate talks on a foreign investment protection agreement.

"Canada remains committed to developing stronger ties with Africa, as demonstrated by recent visits to the continent by Governor General Roméo LeBlanc, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, the Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, Diane Marleau, and myself," said Mr. Kilgour. "Through direct bilateral dialogue, as well as through such organizations as La Francophonie, the Commonwealth and the United Nations, we are actively engaged with our African partners in promoting peace and stability on the continent."


- 30 -

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# News Release

  
International Trade  
Commerce internationale

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

May 18, 1999

(4:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 115

## **PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS SIGNED, INITIATIVES ANNOUNCED: CANADA/U.S.A. BUSINESSWOMEN'S TRADE SUMMIT**

A quarter-million-dollar partnership agreement was one of several announced today at the Canada/U.S.A. Businesswomen's Trade Summit in Toronto.

"This Summit is about doing business today and laying the groundwork for even more export business tomorrow," said International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi, who is a co-chair at the Summit.

Other co-chairs are William Daley, the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, and Aida Alvarez, the Administrator of U.S. Small Business Administration.

The \$250 000 agreement represents a significant success story for a small-business entrepreneur. Devlin Applied Design (Toronto) agreed to provide ProcureNet (Fairfield, New Jersey) with a fully integrated electronic marketing program for ProcureNet's OneSource™ portfolio, an Internet-based procurement resource.

In addition to witnessing the partnership agreements, Minister Marchi announced that the Government of Canada will take action on several high-priority areas to increase the opportunity for more women to do more business in international markets.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade will make special efforts to increase participation by women in the programs identified by businesswomen as most important for new exporters. The Department will also seek to improve the visibility of women business owners, raise awareness of export programs and services among women-owned businesses, enhance export training, and increase private and public sector co-operation among providers of export support services. These priorities are based on recommendations from the Beyond Borders survey conducted following the Businesswomen's Trade Mission to Washington in 1997.

Over 250 Canadian and U.S. businesswomen are attending the Summit, which provides a forum for discussing international trade issues and policies of relevance to women entrepreneurs.





The Summit is a joint initiative by the Canadian and U.S. governments to allow businesswomen to develop and increase cross-border business and to provide networking, partnering and marketing opportunities for its delegates. The Summit is funded primarily by private sector firms including Royal Bank of Canada, Federal Express Canada and 15 other companies.

More information about the Summit can be found on the Internet (<http://www.businesswomensummit.com>).

- 30 -

Two backgrounders are attached.

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## Backgrounder

### PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY CANADIAN BUSINESSWOMEN AT THE CANADA/U.S.A. BUSINESSWOMEN'S TRADE SUMMIT

The following agreements were announced at the Summit:

Catherine Devlin, President and CEO of **Devlin Applied Design** of Toronto, signed a partnership agreement with ProcureNet of Fairfield, New Jersey, to provide a fully integrated electronic marketing program for ProcureNet's OneSource™ portfolio, an Internet-based procurement resource.

Barbara Mowat, President of **Uniquely Canada Enterprises Inc.** of Abbotsford, B.C., entered into a partnership agreement with Stephen Bartkiw of **America Online (AOL) Canada Inc.** to launch the "Uniquely Canada" Web site. This e-commerce site provides an opportunity for Canadian women artisans to market their products worldwide.

Vicki Saunders, President of **KidsNRG** (pronounced "kids energy") of Toronto, entered into a partnership agreement with John Rae-Grant, President of **Art of Work**, Seattle, Washington, to form **The NRG Group**. The new company will exploit the synergy between the partners in the area of passion architecture — a dynamic learning process — enabling its corporate clients to get the highest level of results from their staff.

Marianne Bertrand, President of **Muttluks Inc.** of Toronto, announced several new export contracts, including one with the largest pet industry mail order catalogue company in the United States. These new contracts will triple Muttluk's annual sales.

Andrina Lever, President of **Lever Enterprises** of Toronto (and Executive Director of the Summit), signed a memorandum of understanding with Fran Close, President of **Fran Close and Associates** of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Kathy Kastner of **The Health Television System Inc.** of Toronto entered into an agreement with **Kelly/Waldron** of East Brunswick, New Jersey. Kelly/Waldron will incorporate the innovative educational services of Health Television in the product it offers to the U.S. pharmaceutical industry.

Jim Rager, Vice-Chairman of Royal Bank of Canada, signed a memorandum of understanding with Pat Pape, President of **Women Entrepreneurs of Canada**, and Marilyn Gault of **Women Business Owners of Canada** on a national monitoring program for women exporters.





## **Backgrounder**

### **ACTION ITEMS SUPPORTING BUSINESSWOMEN IN EXPORT TRADE**

***To provide greater visibility to women business owners and to highlight their growing impact on the Canadian trade and commercial environments:***

- A mission of women business owners will be organized to promote business linkages at the Women's Economic Summit of the Americas, November 11-13, 1999, in Buenos Aires. This is part of the memorandum of understanding between the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and the Secretariat of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises of Argentina.
- Canada has initiated and will co-host an Indigenous Women in Export Conference in New Zealand, June 17-20, 1999, to highlight the accomplishments of indigenous women from all APEC economies, including Canada.
- Women Crossing Borders, a delegation of Canadian businesswomen and entrepreneurs, will go to Britain in the spring of 2000 as part of an initiative to encourage greater export access, profile and opportunities in the United Kingdom.

***To raise awareness of export programs and services among women-owned businesses:***

- The WIN Exports database will be expanded to include more businesswomen and thereby increase the number of women receiving regular information on export programs and services. The goal is to triple the number of women business owners in the database from 1500 to 4500.

***To enhance export training to support business growth abroad:***

- Export Development Corporation, a sponsor of Beyond Borders and of this summit, will sponsor the development of a program called Women Going Global. The program will be tailored to the interests of women-owned businesses that are new to the export market. The program will be launched in the fall of 1999.
- Export Development Corporation will offer workshops on cultural training for women exporters. These are planned for delivery in the fall of 1999.
- DFAIT will launch an awareness program on the characteristics and needs of Canadian women business owners for the professionals who provide government export services and programs.

***To further co-operative relationships among governments, associations, small and medium-sized enterprises and private sector providers of export support services:***

- Today, the Minister for International Trade will witness the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Royal Bank, Women Business Owners of Canada Inc. and DFAIT to develop an on-line mentoring program, a deliverable requested by women in the Beyond Borders research.
- The first Canadian chapter of the Organization for Women in International Trade (OWIT) will be incorporated in the fall of 1999; the membership launch is taking place at the Summit.
- DFAIT has established a working committee with representation from a number of federal and provincial ministries to share best practices regarding the introduction of change further to the Beyond Borders research.

# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

May 20, 1999

(3:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 116

## APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the appointment of Lydia A. Hwitsum to the Board of Directors of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (ICHRDD).

The ICHRDD is an independent body established by an Act of Parliament in 1988. It provides persons and organizations in other countries with training, consultation and research services to promote the observance of human rights and the full participation of all citizens in the democratic process. The Centre's Board of Directors is made up of 13 members, including three from countries other than Canada. The Centre's President is Warren Allmand, QC, PC.

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Biographical notes on Ms. Hwitsum are attached.

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## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

**Lydia A. Hwitsum** is currently the elected Chief of Cowichan Tribes on Vancouver Island in British Columbia. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Tale'awtxw Aboriginal Capital Corporation.

Ms. Hwitsum obtained her degree in Law at the University of Victoria in 1997. Her academic pursuits have included Indian Act Taxation and Exemption; Property Law; Program of Legal Studies for Native People; Conflict Resolution; Public Sector Management; and Administration of Aboriginal Government.

Ms. Hwitsum's employment experience includes positions with the Cowichan Valley Native Friendship Centre Society; Cowichan Tribes Administration; the Native Heritage Centre; the B.C. Ministry of Forests; the University of Victoria; and the Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group. She served as Vice President of the University of Victoria Native Law Students Association; as Chapter President of the Cowichan Homemakers' Association; as Chairperson of the Cowichan Tribes Education Committee; and as a member of the Boards of Directors of both the Community Futures program in Duncan, B.C. and the Queen of Angels School.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

May 20, 1999

(6:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 117

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES PROGRESS ON HUMAN SECURITY AGENDA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced further international progress on the human security agenda achieved at a meeting of ministers and representatives of 11 governments in Bergen, Norway, on May 19 and 20, hosted by Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Vollebaek. Canada and Norway also announced that they would jointly sponsor a forum on micro-disarmament, to be held next September in Montreal.

"This meeting illustrates a growing commitment to promote the concept of human security," said Mr. Axworthy. "It also reflects the increasing international importance placed on the security and safety of the individual. Canada will continue to advance the human security agenda through a network of like-minded countries and with non-governmental organizations, as well as through the UN and other international forums."

The meeting in Bergen focussed on the identification of challenges and approaches for addressing major issues, including the elimination of anti-personnel mines, measures to counter the excessive accumulation and transfer of military small arms, prohibition of the use of child soldiers, and efforts to strengthen the adherence to international humanitarian and human rights law.

These challenges, and the importance of continued political commitment and momentum to address them, were also underscored in a keynote address by Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Ms. Ogata highlighted the need to respond to new global realities with new perspectives and approaches that emphasize protection for people. In particular, she appealed to the countries present to look toward supporting peacebuilding and reconciliation for the post-conflict environment in Kosovo and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The ministerial meeting built on the Lysøen Declaration, a Canada-Norway agreement announced by Mr. Axworthy and Mr. Vollebaek last May. It included participation by Canada, Norway, Austria, Chile, Ireland, Jordan, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Switzerland and Thailand. South Africa participated as an observer. These countries first met to



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discuss the concept of human security in New York last September at a lunch organized by Canada and co-hosted by Mr. Axworthy and Mr. Vollebaek.

The forum on micro-disarmament will examine specifically the means to reduce excessive post-conflict surpluses and the proliferation of military small arms and light weapons. Bringing together policy makers and practitioners from North and South, the forum is expected to draw lessons from past and current experience and to generate concrete recommendations for improved micro-disarmament practices.

Mr. Axworthy offered to host a lunch for ministers attending the United Nations General Assembly in September to continue discussion of human security issues. Swiss Foreign Minister Joseph Deiss offered to host the next meeting of the group in spring 2000.

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The Chairman's Summary of the Bergen meeting on human security will be available upon request from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and will be on the Department's Web site: <[www.dfait-maeci-gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci-gc.ca)>. Also available on the site is *Human Security: Safety for People in a Changing World*, released on May 14 by Minister Axworthy; this sets out a rationale for a foreign policy taking safety and security for people as a central point of reference.

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# News Release

May 23, 1999

(10:50 a.m. EDT)

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

No. 118

## PARLIAMENTARIANS TRAVELLING TO TEXAS TO INTERVENE IN FAULDER CASE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that a parliamentary delegation will travel to Austin, Texas, on May 25 to intercede with key officials in the case of Joseph Stanley Faulder, a Canadian who is scheduled to be executed on June 17. The parliamentarians will seek executive clemency for Mr. Faulder from the State of Texas. The Canadian government believes that Mr. Faulder's rights were violated when state officials failed to notify him of his right to contact Canadian consular officials at the time of his arrest.

"I believe that Mr. Faulder's situation is of direct interest to all Canadians," Mr. Axworthy said. "Access by Canadian consular officials to Canadians who have been arrested by foreign governments is an important and fundamental principle of international law — which in this case was not respected."

The delegation will be composed of three MPs: David Pratt (Liberal, Nepean-Carleton, Ontario); Richard Marceau (Bloc Québécois, Charlesbourg, Quebec); and Peter Mancini (NDP, Sydney-Victoria, Nova Scotia). The delegates are scheduled to meet with a number of state officials, including the Chairman of the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles, the Secretary of State of Texas, and the Deputy Attorney General for Criminal Justice.

The Government of Canada has been active in this case since 1992, when Canadian authorities were first informed of Mr. Faulder's situation. Canada has intervened to draw attention to the fact that Mr. Faulder was not informed of his right to contact Canadian consular officials at the time of his arrest. The Vienna Convention on Consular Relations defines the international standards for signatory governments on the protection and assistance for all people when they are in difficulty in another country.

The parliamentarians will hold a press conference on the south Capitol Building steps in Austin at 11:30 a.m. local time on May 25.

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# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

May 25, 1999

(10:15 a.m. EDT)

No. 119

## CANADIANS NOMINATED TO WTO ROSTER

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi announced today that he has nominated 18 prominent Canadians to the roster of panellists of the World Trade Organization's (WTO) dispute settlement system.

The roster, called the Indicative List of Panellists, is composed of individuals recognized for their expertise in international trade. Panellists are drawn from the Indicative List to adjudicate international trade disputes between member countries. The WTO renews the Indicative List every two years.

"I am very pleased to propose these respected Canadian trade experts for the important work of WTO dispute settlement," Minister Marchi said. "Trade is crucial to Canada's prosperity. As a middle power, Canada is best served by a system based on rules rather than power, one that provides certainty and predictability for trade."

Eight of the 18 Canadian panellists are new nominees. They are Meriel V. M. Bradford, Vice-President of Government and Regulatory Affairs for Teleglobe Canada; Catherine A. Brown, Professor of Law at the University of Calgary; Dr. Patricia M. Close, Vice-Chair of the Canadian International Trade Tribunal; Anthony Eyton, Consultant with ARA Consulting Group; Kirsten M. Goodwin, Trade Lawyer with Thomas & Davis; Lawrence L. Herman, Barrister and Solicitor with Cassels Brock & Blackwell; Kathleen E. Macmillan, Economist and Policy Analyst with International Trade Policy Consultants; and Gordon Ritchie, President and CEO of Strategico Inc.

Previous appointees whose terms have been renewed are Ivan Bernier, Professor of Law, Université Laval; Peter Clark, Partner, Grey, Clark, Shih and Associates; Armand de Mestral, Professor of Law, McGill University; Randolph Gherson, Trade and Foreign Policy Advisor; Anthony L. Halliday, Trade Consultant; W. Roy Hines, Trade Consultant; Donald McRae, Professor of Law, University of Ottawa; Dr. Sylvia Ostry, Distinguished Research Fellow, Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto; Christopher Thomas, Partner, Thomas & Davis; and Gilbert R. Winham, Professor of Government and Political Science, Dalhousie University.

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A brief backgrounder on the WTO dispute settlement process is attached.

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## **Backgrounder**

### **WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION DISPUTE SETTLEMENT PROCESS**

The purpose of the WTO dispute settlement process is to settle international trade disputes between member countries as defined by the rules of the World Trade Organization and its multilateral trade agreements.

The World Trade Organization's dispute settlement system is the central pillar of the multilateral trading system. The Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) administers the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU). The DSU is based on clearly defined rules and a set timetable for completing a case.

Typically, a dispute arises when one country adopts a trade policy measure or takes some action that one or more fellow WTO Members views as non-compliant with WTO obligations. Once a complaint is launched, the priority is to settle the dispute through consultations. If these do not lead to resolution of the dispute, the panel process is activated. At that point, other Members may declare that they have an interest in the case and join the panel proceedings as third parties.

The panel rules have been set up to ensure that cases are reviewed thoroughly and without undue delay. They also ensure that all WTO Members with an interest in a dispute are heard. Members of dispute settlement panels are ordinarily selected from the Indicative List of Panellists, a roster of well-qualified candidates from member countries.

Rulings made by the panel are endorsed or rejected by the WTO's full membership. Disputing parties may appeal panel rulings on the basis of points of law. Appeals to a decision are sent to the WTO's Appellate Body. Appellate Body findings are automatically adopted by the DSB.

If a WTO dispute settlement panel rules against a member country, that country must comply with the panel's findings within a set time period. If it does not comply, the complaining party can then seek authority from the Dispute Settlement Body to retaliate.





# News Release

[www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca)

May 26, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 120

## AXWORTHY TO MEET WITH ALBRIGHT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will travel to Washington, D.C., on Thursday, May 27, to meet with U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Discussions will focus on ongoing diplomatic efforts to find an end to the Kosovo crisis.

"The international community is in an important and constructive period of diplomatic negotiations regarding the Kosovo conflict," said Mr. Axworthy. "It is essential that we accelerate and intensify our efforts to find a resolution to this conflict."

Axworthy and Albright will discuss the continuing G-8 process toward a draft UN Security Council resolution and review the progress of the ongoing meetings between the U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Strobe Talbott, and Russia's Special Envoy for Kosovo, Viktor Chernomyrdin and European Union Envoy for Kosovo, Finnish President Maarti Ahtisaari.

During his meeting with Secretary of State Albright, Minister Axworthy will also discuss a number of issues on the bilateral and multilateral agenda.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

May 27, 1999

(5:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 121

## CANADA MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF LAST DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS IN BURMA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today expressed the Government of Canada's continuing regret with the refusal by Burma's military regime to respect the results of the last democratic elections held there nine years ago today.

"Canada calls on Burma's military regime to cease its harassment of political activists and to initiate a meaningful dialogue with Burma's pro-democracy leaders, including Aung San Suu Kyi," said Mr. Axworthy. "The restoration of democracy is essential if Burma is to realize full economic and social development."

Canada has repeatedly condemned Burma's unacceptable record of human rights violations and the military regime's refusal to abide by the results of the 1990 democratic elections. Canadian bilateral aid to Burma was suspended in 1988, following the army's massacre of thousands of pro-democracy demonstrators in Rangoon.

"In national elections nine years ago, the Burmese people overwhelmingly supported the National League for Democracy and its Secretary-General, Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi," said Mr. Chan. "The military regime's continued harassment and intimidation of Burma's parliamentarians-elect, particularly those from the National League for Democracy, cannot erase the election results."

The national elections held in Burma on May 27, 1990, were the first held since 1962. The National League for Democracy, led by Aung San Suu Kyi, captured 392 seats, more than 80 percent of the total number of seats.

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

May 28, 1999

(10:15 a.m. EDT)

No. 122

## URUGUAYAN VICE-PRESIDENT TO VISIT CANADA

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced that Uruguay's Vice-President, Hugo Fernández Faingold, will visit Canada from May 29 to June 4, 1999, accompanied by a delegation of officials and business people.

"Uruguay is one of Canada's close partners in the hemisphere, with bilateral trade showing solid growth over the past several years," said Minister Marchi. "Mr. Fernández Faingold's visit to Canada is an excellent opportunity to build stronger ties between our two countries."

During his talks with Mr. Fernández Faingold, Minister Marchi will discuss the outlook for expanding trade between the two countries in such areas as the environmental sector, mining, forestry and telecommunications. Canada's relations with Mercosur, the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), and parliamentary relations among the countries of the hemisphere will be covered in other official talks.

Vice-President Fernández Faingold will be a guest speaker at the fifth Conférence de Montréal, which is focussing this year on the Americas in the 21st century. There he will meet with Human Resources Development Minister Pierre Pettigrew, as well as with members of the business community.

In Ottawa, Mr. Fernández Faingold will meet with Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray and Senate Speaker Gildas L. Molgat. A bilateral accord on social security and an agreement between the Export Development Corporation (EDC) and the Mortgage Bank of Uruguay will be signed during the visit.

Mr. Fernández Faingold will end his Canadian visit in Toronto, where he will meet with Canadian importers, brokers and business delegations.

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# News Release

May 28, 1999

(4:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 123

## GOVERNMENT SEEKS INPUT ON POSSIBLE RETALIATION AGAINST AUSTRALIA

The Government of Canada is seeking public input on a proposal to impose a surtax on imports of certain Australian products if Australia does not lift its 24-year-old ban on imports of fresh, chilled and frozen salmon by July 6, 1999. Canadians are being asked to comment on the list of products that might be subject to a surtax. The list will be published in the *Canada Gazette* on May 29, 1999, and comments are requested by June 28, 1999.

In June 1998, a World Trade Organization (WTO) panel ruled that Australia's ban was scientifically unjustified and discriminatory, and contrary to Australia's international trade obligations. An Australian appeal to the WTO Appellate Body failed. In February 1999, a WTO arbitrator gave Australia until July 6, 1999, to implement the WTO rulings.

"To date, Australia has shown no sign of lifting the ban," said International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi. "That is why we are preparing to defend Canadian interests and why we are consulting with the public on building a list of imported products that could be taxed."

"Canada's sole objective in this case remains having unfettered access to the Australian market," said Fisheries and Oceans Minister David Anderson. "After all, Canadian salmon is renowned for its quality and we export fresh and frozen salmon to approximately 50 countries around the world."

If Australia fails to implement the WTO ruling on July 6, WTO rules allow Australia to negotiate compensation with Canada as an interim arrangement until it brings its measure into compliance with the rulings. If an agreement on compensation cannot be reached, the Canadian government will ask the WTO to allow Canada to retaliate. Upon receiving the WTO's authorization to retaliate, the government will select certain imported products from the list it published in the *Canada Gazette* and impose a surtax of 100 percent above existing customs duties on the items in question.

Australia's ban was first introduced in 1975 after Australia alleged that imports of fresh, chilled and frozen salmon presented a health risk to Australia's salmon population. After

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years of unsuccessful bilateral efforts to resolve the dispute, the WTO Dispute Settlement Body established a panel on April 10, 1997, at Canada's request.

More detailed background documents including the *Canada Gazette* notice will be available under "news releases" on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Web site.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Web site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

May 28, 1999

(6:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 124

## CANADA WELCOMES ADOPTION OF THE NEW MONTREAL CONVENTION

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the results of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) conference, which ratified the adoption of the new Montreal Convention.

"As an active member of the UN and the host country of the ICAO, Canada is proud to recognize all the accomplishments of this important conference," said Mr. Axworthy. "The adoption of the Montreal Convention underscores the Organization's willingness and ability to respond to new international challenges."

The Montreal Convention will give consumers greater opportunity to institute legal proceedings in the countries where they reside in the event of incidents for which compensation is sought. It also eliminates any limitation on carriers' liability for bodily injuries sustained on board an aircraft. This new agreement is the product of a lengthy and arduous process of consolidating and modernizing the air transport rules established by the Warsaw System in 1929. Over 50 countries are expected to sign the new Montreal Convention today.

Representing Minister Axworthy, the Secretary of State for Canada Economic Development (Quebec Regions), Martin Cauchon, participated at the signing ceremony of the supplementary Canada-ICAO agreement regarding the Organization's Montreal headquarters.

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

May 28, 1999

(7:50 p.m. EDT)

No. 125

## KILGOUR TO ATTEND INAUGURATION OF NIGERIAN PRESIDENT OLUSEGUN OBASANJO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour will travel to Abuja, Nigeria, for the inauguration of Nigeria's new President, Olusegun Obasanjo, on May 29, 1999.

"The installation of a civilian government is a momentous event for Nigeria," said Mr. Kilgour. "Canada has helped with the transition from military to civilian rule, and is committed to working closely with Nigeria directly and through various international organizations to assist in consolidating its democratic gains."

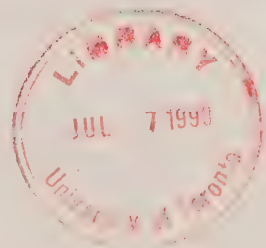
Minister Axworthy visited Nigeria in January to see first-hand how the transition process was progressing and to support the constructive measures taken by the interim administration of General Abubakar. Since the beginning of the political transition which started in mid-1998, Canada has provided \$1.25 million for elections. Canada has also sent election observers and technical experts as part of a Commonwealth initiative and in co-operation with the European Union.

Nigeria will be reintegrated into the Commonwealth on the same day as the inauguration. Its full membership in the organization was suspended at the 1995 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in New Zealand, following serious violations of democracy and human rights by Nigeria. Commonwealth Heads of Government agreed to restore Nigeria's membership upon the recommendation of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG), of which Canada is a member and in which it has played a leading role.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

June 2, 1999

No. 126

## AXWORTHY WELCOMES JUDGMENT BY INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the judgment of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) rejecting the application by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which had sought provisional measures ordering Canada and nine other NATO members to cease and refrain from the use of force in its territory.

"The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia's April 29 application was an attempt to seek protection from the consequences of its own crimes against humanity," said Mr. Axworthy. "With the Court's rejection of this application, Yugoslavia should now understand that the only way to bring an end to the tragic situation in Kosovo is to accept the conditions the international community has established."

In a majority decision of 12 to 4, the Court refused to recommend "provisional measures" against Canada and the nine other NATO states (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States) against which Yugoslavia brought its action. The Court decided that it does not have jurisdiction because Yugoslavia's acceptance of the ICJ's jurisdiction was filed after the dispute in question arose. It also found that, contrary to Yugoslavia's claim, NATO's use of force did not constitute genocide.

"We are pleased that a large majority of the judges rejected this attempt by Yugoslavia to use the Court to achieve a political goal, and to avoid its own responsibility in doing what is necessary to bring an end to what the Court termed 'the enormous suffering in Kosovo,'" said Mr. Axworthy. He added, "Yugoslavia should demonstrate its respect for international law by co-operating with the other court in The Hague, the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia."

Canada's case was presented by Philippe Kirsch, Legal Adviser for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Former Canadian cabinet minister Marc Lalonde sat as Judge *ad hoc* in the case.



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The Canadian Government will assess what steps to take next once it becomes clear whether Yugoslavia has decided to proceed with the case, which remains on the Court's docket.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

June 4, 1999

(1:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 127

## CANADA NOTES TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF TIANANMEN SQUARE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today noted the tenth anniversary of the tragic violence of June 4, 1989, at Tiananmen Square in Beijing.

"This solemn date reminds us all that the campaign for human rights is a long and arduous one in many societies," said Mr. Axworthy. "Although we recognize China's efforts to improve the human rights situation since 1989, we continue to have serious concerns."

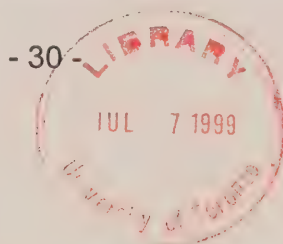
"Imprisonment of individuals for their political views, some of whom have been in jail since June 1989, is unacceptable," said Mr. Chan. "The immediate release of dissidents associated with the Tiananmen protests would be an important step by China in dealing with the events of a decade ago."

Both Mr. Axworthy and Mr. Chan said that Canada's policy is to seek every opportunity to work with China to improve human rights in that country. They noted that Canada contributes to several projects, such as training senior judges, raising awareness of the 1992 China Women's Law, and the development of a national legal aid system, which aim to improve the rule of law and to increase respect for individual rights within the Chinese justice system.

This co-operation will continue at the second "Plurilateral Symposium" on human rights in China, co-hosted by Canada, China and Norway, which will take place in China next month. As well, an ecumenical delegation will travel to China later this year to discuss issues related to religious freedom.

Both Minister Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan reiterated Canada's call for China to follow its welcome signature of the International Covenant on Political and Civil Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Cultural and Social Rights, with the ratification and implementation of both instruments.

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

June 6, 1999

(11:10 a.m. EDT)

No. 128

## KILGOUR TO ATTEND OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN GUATEMALA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour will travel to Guatemala to attend the 29th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), to be held from June 6 to 8. Mr. Kilgour will meet with foreign ministers from North, Central and South America and the Caribbean to discuss Canada's priorities in the hemisphere, including such human security issues as human rights, mine clearance and drug control. He will also discuss progress on the implementation of commitments that Canada made last year at the Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile. Mr. Kilgour will also participate in the foreign ministers' Dialogue on Drugs, which was launched by Mr. Axworthy last January in Jamaica.

"For a number of years now, Canada's foreign policy has been squarely focussed on the challenges of human security. Multifold, endemic, transnational and destabilizing, these challenges demand a coherent, multidimensional global response," said Mr. Kilgour. "The issue of human security has drawn increased attention in the hemisphere, and this next OAS General Assembly provides an excellent venue for all member states to ponder the issues and decide on a course of common action."

Other Canadian priorities to be discussed at this year's General Assembly include the Dialogue on Drugs; the establishment of an OAS parliamentary network; Canada's growing role in the hemisphere as it prepares to host the next Summit of the Americas in Quebec City in 2001; the participation of civil society in setting OAS priorities and objectives; the reinforcement of links between the OAS and other institutions of the inter-American system; and ways to modernize and strengthen the OAS.

Every year, the OAS General Assembly brings together the foreign affairs ministers of 34 member states of the Americas and the Caribbean. Canada will host the OAS General Assembly in the year 2000, marking the 10th anniversary of its membership in the Organization.

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# News Release

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June 6, 1999

(12:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 129

## CANADA SIGNS FOREIGN INVESTMENT PROTECTION AGREEMENT WITH EL SALVADOR

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced the signing of a Foreign Investment Protection Agreement (FIPA) with El Salvador.

"Canada continues its commitment to liberalized trade and investment in the Americas," said Minister Marchi. "This agreement reflects our interest in expanding our trade and economic relationship with El Salvador."

The FIPA is a major element of the framework established by the Memorandum of Understanding on Trade and Investment signed between Canada and El Salvador in March 1998.

Under the FIPA, Canada and El Salvador are obligated to protect investments in each other's countries, and agree to be transparent and to provide information about their investment rules. The FIPA provides for rules regarding expropriation, the transfer of funds, and investor-state and state-to-state dispute settlement.

The Foreign Minister of El Salvador, Ing. Ramon Gonzalez Giner, and the Canadian Ambassador to El Salvador, Daniel Livermore, signed the Foreign Investment Protection Agreement in San Salvador. The ceremony was witnessed by Senator Celine Hervieux-Payette, who was representing the Canadian government at the inauguration of Francisco Flores, El Salvador's new President.

At present, Canadian investment in El Salvador is relatively modest, at approximately \$10 million, and is concentrated in banking services and mining.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

June 6, 1999

(4:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 130

## AXWORTHY TO ATTEND G-8 FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN BONN

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy departed today for Bonn to attend a special meeting on Kosovo of the Group of Eight (G-8) Foreign Ministers on June 7.

"The events of the last few days give us all hope that we may soon see an end to the Kosovo crisis. The early arrival in Kosovo of an international peacekeeping force, including Canadians, will begin the process of stabilizing the situation so that refugees can eventually return to their homes," said Mr. Axworthy. "The international community has stood firm on the principle that human security must be the overriding principle in securing peace; it will be crucial to ensure that the peace is sustainable through post-conflict reconciliation and reconstruction."

The G-8 Foreign Ministers last met regarding the conflict in Kosovo on May 6 to co-ordinate diplomatic efforts to secure an end to the crisis. At tomorrow's session, they will discuss the way ahead, including delicate issues related to the establishment of the international peacekeeping force and a civilian administration. They will also discuss the terms of a UN Security Council resolution that would set down the framework for the peace process.

- 30 -

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# News Release

June 7, 1999

(11:00 a.m. EDT)

No. 131

## WINDSOR TO HOST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF OAS IN 2000

Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray and Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Windsor, Ontario, will be the host city for the 30th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) from June 4 to 6, 2000. This will mark both the first time that Canada will host the OAS General Assembly, which is held at the level of foreign minister, and Canada's 10th anniversary as a member of the Organization.

"I am very pleased and especially proud that Windsor will be 'hosting the hemisphere' at the first OAS General Assembly of the new millennium," said Mr. Gray. "Hosting this important international event is an opportunity to showcase our city and our country, and to share with our hemispheric partners all we have to offer as a neighbour and partner of the Americas." The Deputy Prime Minister noted that Windsor can expect to receive about 700 people at this event, approximately 500 of whom will be official delegates.

"Over the past nine years, Canada has become an influential and respected voice within the Organization, and has succeeded in putting human security firmly on the OAS agenda," said Mr. Axworthy. "Hosting next year's General Assembly will enable Canada to put greater emphasis on its priorities in the OAS, such as hemispheric integration, civil society participation, democratic development and the fight against drugs."

The OAS is the western hemisphere's principal forum for political, social and economic dialogue. Joining the OAS has enabled Canada to become an active and influential partner in the hemisphere, and to advance such key foreign policy objectives as human security, human rights, democratization, economic integration, environmental protection and sustainable development.

Canada will host the Americas on a number of occasions over the next two years. Winnipeg will welcome the youth of the hemisphere to the Pan American Games in July; the ninth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas will



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be held in Ottawa in September; the Free Trade Area of the Americas Trade Ministers Meeting and the fifth Americas Business Forum will take place in Toronto this fall; and Canada will receive leaders at the *AmericasCanada* Summit — the third Summit of the Americas — to be held in Quebec City in 2001.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

June 7, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 132

## AXWORTHY TO CONTINUE KOSOVO DISCUSSIONS WITH G-8 COUNTERPARTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he will attend a meeting of G-8 Foreign Ministers tomorrow to continue discussions on Kosovo, which began this afternoon. The talks will take place in Cologne, where the group's annual meeting is scheduled to begin on June 9.

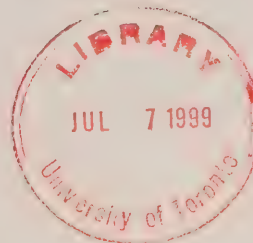
"Progress was made today at the G-8 Foreign Ministers meeting toward finalizing the text of a United Nations Security Council resolution on Kosovo," said Mr. Axworthy. "We look forward to continuing our efforts tomorrow, and then working with our Security Council counterparts in New York to pass this resolution as soon as possible."

Issues to be discussed later this week in Cologne include many elements of Canada's human security policy, including protection of civilians, safeguarding the rights of children, small arms, the export of conventional weapons, anti-personnel mines, terrorism, drugs and transnational crime. Other topics include conflict prevention, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and regional crises. A meeting will also be held to advance the establishment of a Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe. The Pact aims to strengthen the efforts of countries in the region to foster stability through peaceful, democratic development, respect for human rights, and economic prosperity.

"This has been a very challenging year for the international community," said Mr. Axworthy. "While I expect that Kosovo will top the agenda, my G-8 counterparts will also discuss how we can apply the principles of human security in a practical way to deal with problems that are occurring in many other parts of the world."

The G-8 Foreign Ministers meeting will be followed by that of the G-7 Finance Ministers in Frankfurt on June 12 and by the G-8 Leaders Summit from June 18 to 20 in Cologne.

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

June 8, 1999

(5:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 133

## G-8 FOREIGN MINISTERS REACH AGREEMENT ON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION FOR KOSOVO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the agreement reached by the G-8 Foreign Ministers on a draft United Nations Security Council Resolution to implement the Kosovo peace agreement brokered by Russian Special Envoy Viktor Chernomyrdin and Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari last week.

Minister Axworthy commended Russia and his other G-8 partners for their co-operation and perseverance in forging this agreement, which he hailed as an important diplomatic turning point in the Kosovo crisis and a major step toward lasting peace in Kosovo. The Minister urged quick adoption of the Resolution by the Security Council.

"By defining the terms for an end to the hostilities, the Resolution paves the way for the safe return home of over a million Kosovar refugees and internally displaced persons who were forced to flee the violence of the Yugoslav regime," said Minister Axworthy. "It was the plight of these innocent civilians that compelled our intervention in March. With today's agreement, we are a step closer to achieving our objective of restoring their security, their hope and their future in Kosovo."

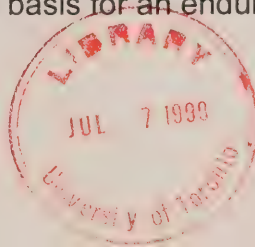
This Resolution demands a verifiable withdrawal of Yugoslav troops from Kosovo and opens the door to a suspension of NATO's air campaign. It authorizes international civilian and security presences to oversee and implement the peace plan. The Resolution also contains provisions for the resumption of dialogue aimed at a long-term political settlement on the status of Kosovo, with significant autonomy within Yugoslavia, and calls on the international community to contribute to reconstruction efforts.

"Canada will work with our Security Council partners in New York to build upon this very positive development for peace in Kosovo," said Mr. Axworthy. "I am very pleased that the draft Resolution reflects Canadian priorities such as the importance of demining and strong support for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), both of which will contribute to ensuring the basis for an enduring and just peace."



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By reiterating ICTY's role in Kosovo, the international community has recognized that there cannot be peace without justice and that those who commit crimes against humanity will be held accountable. The draft Resolution also demands full co-operation with the ICTY by the international security presence, and underlines its responsibility to protect the freedom of movement of international organizations such as the ICTY.

The draft Resolution has been transmitted to New York this afternoon, where it will be co-sponsored by Canada and the other G-8 countries.

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For further information, media representatives may contact :

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# News Release

June 9, 1999

(12:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 134

## CANADA TO CONTROL IMAGING SATELLITES

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Defence Minister Art Eggleton today announced that as the ownership of remote sensing satellites moves from the public to the private sector, Canada is developing new legislation to control commercial remote sensing satellites. These high-performance satellites can be used for cartography, natural resources management and surveillance of the Earth.

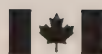
"We need to take steps to ensure that photographs taken by these satellites are not used against Canada and its allies," said Mr. Axworthy. "This new policy will protect national security, help safeguard human lives and enhance Canadian competitiveness in the growing space sector."

The Minister of Foreign Affairs is leading the government's initiative to develop new or to modify existing legislation relating to the commercial ownership and operation of remote sensing satellites. This policy will permit Canadian companies to own and operate satellites in Canada. It will also enable the processing, analysis and exploitation of data collected by high-performance satellites, and allow this information to be made available to potential clients without compromising national security and foreign affairs interests.

"As modern remote sensing satellites can produce imagery whose quality approaches that obtained from specialized intelligence satellites, we must ensure that the data produced by Canadian satellites cannot be used to the detriment of our national security and that of our allies," said Mr. Eggleton. "We have the responsibility, obligation and prerogative to protect our interests."

Canada is in the vanguard of the trend toward commercialization of high-performance remote sensing satellites. This policy initiative seeks to maintain and protect Canada's critical industrial base, to further advance the technology, to create economic opportunities and to promote regional stability together with the private sector.

The process leading to the drafting of the new legislation began in earnest approximately one year ago. The legislative process to implement the policy is



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expected to take up to two years, and implementation would precede the launch of Canada's first commercial remote sensing satellite.

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A backgrounder is attached.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



## **Background**

### **DEVELOPING A CANADIAN ACCESS CONTROL POLICY FOR COMMERCIAL REMOTE SENSING SATELLITES**

Canada is a world leader in the design, construction and operation of high-performance civilian remote sensing satellites using Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR). Canada is also in the forefront of processing, analysing and exploiting data produced by high-performance imaging satellites for use in cartography, land use and natural resources management, reconnaissance and surveillance of the Earth.

For example, natural resource industries can make use of currently available satellite images to monitor crop and forest growth and to gain insights into the distribution of ground water, minerals, and oil and gas deposits. Decision makers in Canadian companies are demanding better quality data to generate greater economic opportunity in various fields, including ice reconnaissance, coastal surveillance, oceanography, cartography, geology, environmental monitoring, hydrology, agriculture, forestry, and disaster response and mitigation.

As the ownership of civilian remote sensing satellites moves from the public to the private sector in Canada, these satellites will come under commercial ownership and operation. It is therefore necessary for an access control policy to protect the country's vital interests. The Government of Canada will develop its policy to preserve government controls on data acquisition and dissemination in urgent and critical temporary situations.

In its space initiatives, Canada has always sought international co-operation for the peaceful use of outer space. Under collective security agreements, Canada has an obligation to protect the security of its allies. In fact, they are taking similar measures with respect to satellites under their own jurisdiction and control.

An interdepartmental team of experts is elaborating Canada's access control policy. The Minister of Foreign Affairs will lead this effort and ensure that the policy is developed in accordance with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The legislative process to implement the policy is expected to take up to two years and will include consultations with all parties concerned.

The following principles will guide the interdepartmental team of experts.

1. Review and approve all commercial remote sensing satellite systems owned, operated or registered in Canada, considering data access, system architecture, system performance and foreign ownership on a case-by-case basis and specifying limits deemed necessary and sufficient to protect Canada's national security and foreign affairs interests.

2. Interrupt normal commercial service when the availability of data may be detrimental to Canada's national security and foreign affairs interests. Access control directives may consist of spatial, temporal, performance or customer-specific denials or restrictions, or combinations thereof, as deemed necessary on a case-by-case basis. Decisions to invoke, modify or revoke the shutter control directives will be made at the level of a federal minister or designate.
3. Obtain priority access when the availability of data may be beneficial to Canada's national security and foreign affairs interests. Decisions to authorize priority access requests will be made at the level of a federal deputy minister or designate.

The owner, operator or registered entity shall, as appropriate:

1. Register with an appropriate Government of Canada department for approval of the system.
2. Maintain a record of all satellite tasking and allow the Government of Canada timely access to this record and archived data upon request in accordance with lawful authority.
3. Not change the operational characteristics of the system from that registered without formal notification and approval of the appropriate minister(s).
4. Obtain import or export permit(s) pursuant to applicable laws.
5. Not transfer ownership, operation or registration to any company, whether foreign or domestic, without the explicit permission of the appropriate minister(s).
6. Maintain positive control of the satellite at all times, execute such control solely from the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada, and use a command uplink format that enables the Government of Canada to exercise sovereignty over the satellite in accordance with lawful authority.
7. Use a data downlink format that allows the Government of Canada preferred, including exclusive, access to the data during periods when the access control policy has been invoked.
8. Use Government of Canada-approved cryptographic devices to deny unauthorized access.
9. Have no tasking priority higher than national security, except for satellite safety and health, and shall, upon receipt of an accredited means of authorization, ensure timely access to the satellite for the Department of National Defence, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), and the



Canadian Security Intelligence Service and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police of the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

10. Render all necessary and sufficient assistance to a duly authorized officer of the Government of Canada for the diligent and faithful execution of the access control directive(s).
11. Notify DFAIT of its intent to enter into significant or substantial agreements with foreign customers. The notification period shall be sufficient for the Department to co-ordinate with other government departments concerning the review and approval of the proposed commercial agreement with respect to Canada's national security and foreign affairs concerns. DFAIT may also require intergovernmental arrangements or commitments regarding the national security and foreign policy implications of such commercial significant or substantial agreements on a case-by-case basis.
12. Make available to the government of any country, including Canada, data acquired by its system concerning the territory under the jurisdiction of such a government (sensed state) in accordance with the United Nations A/RES/41/65 Principles Relating to Remote Sensing of the Earth from Space. However, such data shall not be provided to the sensed state if its uncontrolled release is determined to be detrimental to Canada's national security and foreign affairs interests.
13. Offer to the Government of Canada, at cost of reproduction and transmission, any data acquired by the system prior to the destruction of that data.
14. Provide periodic reports containing information necessary and sufficient to ascertain compliance with duly established regulations to the Government of Canada.
15. Submit to both announced routine and unannounced non-routine audits or inspections pertaining to the operation of the system by a duly authorized officer of the Government of Canada.
16. Submit to special investigations conducted in accordance with lawful authority.
17. Comply with duly authorized cease-and-desist injunctions and assistance orders in accordance with lawful authority.





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Publications

# News Release

www.dfa-it-ma-eci.gc.ca

June 9, 1999

(12:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 135

## CANADA TAKES ACTION TO DEFEND SOFTWOOD LUMBER EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced that Canada is taking immediate action in response to the U.S. government's unilateral move to reclassify two types of lumber known in the industry as rougher headed lumber and notched studs, into a tariff category covered by the Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Agreement.

"We are deeply disappointed by the U.S. decision to resume the reclassification of softwood lumber products. We view this action as unfair, politically motivated harassment of Canadian exporters," said Minister Marchi. "Canada will continue to vigorously oppose all U.S. attempts to unilaterally expand the scope of the Softwood Lumber Agreement," he added.

The actions announced today, which enjoy the broad support of the industry, include:

- an immediate request for arbitration under the Softwood Lumber Agreement with the United States on rougher headed lumber;
- an immediate request for consultations under the Softwood Lumber Agreement with the United States on their reclassification of notched studs; and
- immediate referral of the tariff reclassification issues to the World Customs Organization Harmonized System Committee.

The U.S. action comes in the wake of the May 10 ruling by the Harmonized System Committee, which supported Canada's position on an earlier decision by the U.S. to reclassify drilled studs — a two-by-four with holes for wiring and pipes, a product very similar to notched studs.

Rougher headed lumber includes non-structural wooden articles used principally as fascia and trim board in building construction.



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et du Commerce international



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Consultations are at the first step in the dispute settlement process. Consultations on rougher headed lumber took place in April 1999, and therefore Canada is in a position to request arbitration under the Softwood Lumber Agreement.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

June 10, 1999

(1:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 136

## CANADA TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada will contribute \$1 million to the International Fund for Ireland (IFI) over the next three years, in support of international peacebuilding efforts in Ireland. The IFI promotes economic and social progress, and encourages dialogue and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and Ireland.

"This contribution further re-affirms Canada's commitment to the peace process in Ireland," said Mr. Axworthy. "We are especially pleased that Canada's contribution will be applied toward the Fund's continued activities, which support programs for disadvantaged areas and promote intercommunity links and dialogue."

The Fund is intended to help Ireland build a peaceful and prosperous future, and is supported by Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United States and the European Union, with a view to promoting the peace process in Northern Ireland.

Among the wide range of IFI projects are initiatives that provide opportunities for young people from disadvantaged communities to take part in training and work programs aimed at future employment and education. Activities include urban and rural development, tourism development and a community initiative focussing on the provision of social projects, such as day care centres. All projects are designed to involve participants from both Republican and Unionist communities.

To date, Canada has contributed more than \$5 million to the IFI since it was established in 1986 by the U.K. and Irish governments. Canada has a particular interest in securing peace in Northern Ireland since close to 4 million Canadians are of Irish descent.

Canadian efforts toward reaching peace in Northern Ireland also include the noteworthy participation of General (Ret) John de Chastelain, head of the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning; Chief Justice William Hoyt of the New Brunswick Superior Court, who serves on an international judicial body re-investigating the 1972 "Bloody Sunday" massacre; and Professor Clifford Shearing, head of the Centre for



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Criminology at the University of Toronto, who provides expert recommendations to the Commission on Policing established under the Good Friday Agreement.

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# News Release

International Trade  
Commerce international

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

June 10, 1999

(3:05 p.m. EDT)

No. 137

## MARCHI WELCOMES REPORT ON UPCOMING TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi welcomed a report released today by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade. The report summarizes the Committee's findings on upcoming trade negotiations, and is based on hearings held across Canada this spring.

The report is the result of the Minister's suggestion that the views of Canadians be solicited as widely as possible in order to provide input into the formulation of positions on trade issues for the expected launch of a new round of trade negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO) later this year. In response, the Standing Committee held comprehensive hearings in 14 cities to allow Canadians to contribute to the preparation of trade negotiating positions.

"I welcome the Committee's report because it gives the government valuable advice on trade issues as we enter into these negotiations," said Minister Marchi. "Maintaining an open-door relationship with Canadians will allow us to promote truly Canadian values and interests when we sit down at the WTO negotiating table."

This report by the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade complements other efforts to ensure that Canadians have a voice in Canada's overall trade agenda, including hearings on agricultural trade-related issues already held by the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

The information collected will be supplemented by written submissions received in response to a request for comments in the *Canada Gazette* on February 6. Submissions will be accepted until June 18.

This report can be obtained by contacting:  
Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
Room 637, Wellington Building  
House of Commons  
180 Wellington Street  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6  
Tel: (613) 996-1533



- 30 -





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The report will be available on the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade Web site at **[www.parl.gc.ca](http://www.parl.gc.ca)** under "Parliamentary Business."

# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

June 10, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 138

## DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the following diplomatic appointments:

**James K. Bartleman** becomes High Commissioner to the Commonwealth of Australia with concurrent accreditation as Ambassador to the Republic of Palau.

**Stewart Beck** becomes Consul General in Shanghai, the People's Republic of China.

**Daniel K. Daley** becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Panama.

**Peter Donolo** becomes Consul General in Milan, the Italian Republic.

**Ian C. Ferguson** becomes High Commissioner to the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

**Suzanne Hurtubise** becomes Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris.

**C. Richard Mann** becomes Ambassador to the State of Kuwait.

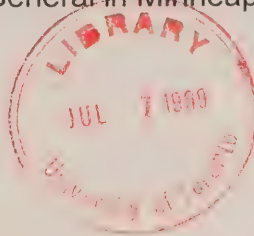
**Peter McKellar** becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia.

**John Mundy** becomes Consul General in Sydney, the Commonwealth of Australia.

**Guillermo E. Rishchynski** becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia.

**John Robinson** becomes High Commissioner to Jamaica with concurrent accreditation as Commissioner to the British Dependent Territories of the Cayman Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

**Susan Ann Thompson** becomes Consul General in Minneapolis, the United States of America.



**Christopher Westdal** becomes Alternate Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the Office of the United Nations, and Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the United Nations for Disarmament.

- 30 -

Biographical notes on the appointees are attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

**James K. Bartleman** (BA Honours [History], University of Western Ontario, 1963) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1966. He is a member of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation and received his early education in Port Carling, Muskoka. He has served abroad in Bogotá, Bangkok, and Dhaka, and at the North Atlantic Council in Brussels. From 1981 to 1983, he was Ambassador to the Republic of Cuba, and from 1986 to 1990, he served as Ambassador to the State of Israel. In 1990, he returned to Brussels to serve as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council. At headquarters in Ottawa, Mr. Bartleman has held numerous positions, including Director General, Bureau of Intelligence Analysis and Security, and Director General, Economic Intelligence Bureau. From 1994 to 1998, he was Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister and Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet for Foreign and Defence Policy, Privy Council Office. Since 1998, he has served as High Commissioner to the Republic of South Africa. He is married to Marie Jeanne Bartleman and they have three children. Mr. Bartleman succeeds Brian Schumacher.

**Stewart Beck** (BA, Queen's University, 1975; BPHE, Queen's University, 1975; MBA, Queen's University, 1979) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1982 as a Trade Commissioner after several years spent working as a business consultant and as Assistant Professor at Queen's University School of Business. He has served abroad in San Francisco, Santa Clara (California) and Miami. Upon returning to Ottawa in 1993, he undertook an assignment in the East Asia Trade Division. Since 1995, Mr. Beck has been Executive Deputy Director of the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei. He is married to Brenda Beck and they have two sons. Mr. Beck succeeds Edward Lipman.

**Daniel K. Daley** (BA, McMaster University, 1972; LLB, Queen's University, 1978) joined the Department of Justice in 1978 and moved to the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1980. After joining the Department of External Affairs in 1981, he has served abroad as Trade Commissioner in Rome and Seoul. In Ottawa, Mr. Daley has served as Deputy Director, Export Controls Division; Deputy Director, Services and General Trade Policy Division; and Associate General Counsel, Trade Law Division. In the latter capacity, he was Canada's Principal Legal Counsel for the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement. Since 1997, Mr. Daley has served as Director, Access to Information and Privacy Protection Division. He is married to Patty Goodfellow-Daley and they have one daughter. Mr. Daley succeeds Louise Léger.

**Peter Donolo** (BA Honours, Carleton University, 1981) has served as Director of Communications in the Prime Minister's Office since 1993. He has been a senior member of Canadian delegations on trade missions and at international summits and conferences over the last six years. From 1991 to 1993, Mr. Donolo was Director of Communications in the Office of the Leader of the Opposition. He served as Communications Advisor to the Mayor of Toronto from 1989 to 1991. Prior to that he

was senior writer at Communiqué Ltd. in Toronto (1987-1989), and copywriter at Wallace-Saffer Advertising in Montreal (1984-1987). Mr. Donolo is married to Mary Cruden and they have three children. He succeeds Ian McLean.

**Ian C. Ferguson** (BA Honours, University of Alberta, 1972) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1972 and has served abroad in Brasilia, Dakar, Damascus, and in Pretoria as Minister-Counsellor and Consul. From 1978 to 1979, Mr. Ferguson studied at the École Nationale d'Administration in Paris. In Ottawa, Mr. Ferguson has served in the United Nations Division; West and Central Africa Division; Human Rights, Women's Equality and Social Affairs Division; and as Director, Francophone Africa and Maghreb Relations Division. Since 1996, Mr. Ferguson has been Director, Federal-Provincial Relations Division. Canada's High Commission to Nigeria was reopened earlier this year.

**Suzanne Hurtubise** (BA [Economics], Carleton University, 1974; MA [Economics], Carleton University, 1976) joined the Department of Finance as an economist in 1976. From 1980 to 1981, she served as an economist for the National Assembly of Quebec and, the following year, as Assistant Secretary of the Board of the Canadian Industrial Renewal Board. From 1982 to 1985, she was Chief of the 6 & 5 Program, Director of the Consultations Division, and, subsequently, Assistant Director of the Social Policy Division at the Department of Finance. In 1986, she became Director of Operations for Economic and Regional Development Policy at the Privy Council Office, a position she held until 1988, when she became Director General of Surface Policy and Programs at the Department of Transport. From 1990 to 1991, Ms. Hurtubise served as Assistant Deputy Minister for Corporate Policy and Strategic Planning in the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, and, from 1991 to 1993, she was Deputy Secretary for Constitutional Affairs in the Federal-Provincial Relations Office. In 1993, she was appointed Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet for Plans and Consultation in the Privy Council Office, becoming Associate Secretary to the Cabinet in 1994. In July 1995, Ms. Hurtubise was appointed Deputy Minister of Canadian Heritage. Ms. Hurtubise succeeds Kimon Valaskakis.

**C. Richard Mann** (BSc, University of Toronto, 1967; MBA, University of Toronto, 1969) joined the Trade Commissioner Service of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1969 and has served abroad in Manila, Chicago and Cairo, as well as in New York with the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations. From 1987 to 1990, he served as Minister-Counsellor (Commercial) in Seoul, and from 1991 to 1994, as Minister-Counsellor (Commercial) in Moscow. In Ottawa, he has held the positions of Director, East Asia Trade Development Division, and from 1994 to 1996, he was Director, Trade Development Operations Division. Since 1996, Mr. Mann has served as Ambassador to Kazakhstan. He is married to Gloria Mann and they have two children. Mr. Mann succeeds Terence Colfer.



**Peter McKellar** (BA, Carleton University, 1963) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1966 and has served abroad in Paris, Yaoundé, Mexico City and Washington, and at the Canadian Consulate General in New York. From 1993 to 1997, he served in Vienna as Minister-Counsellor and as Ambassador and Deputy Head of the Canadian Delegation to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. In Ottawa, Mr. McKellar undertook assignments in the French Africa and Aid and Export Financing Policy Divisions, and from 1970 to 1972, served as Attaché at Government House. From 1984 to 1988, he was Director, Energy and Environment Division. Since 1997, Mr. McKellar has been Director, Central Europe Division. Mr. McKellar becomes Canada's first resident Ambassador to Latvia.

**John Mundy** (BA [Politics and Economics], Queen's University, 1973; Certificat pratique, Université de Dijon, 1974; MBA, University of Western Ontario, 1977) joined the Canadian Foreign Service as a Trade Commissioner in 1977 and has served abroad in Seoul, Manila, Islamabad and Brussels. In Ottawa, he was seconded to the Export Development Corporation from 1983 to 1985. From 1987 to 1990, he undertook an assignment in the Export Finance and Capital Project Division. From 1994 to 1997, he was Director, International Finance Division, and since 1997, has been Director, Korea and Oceania Division. He is married to Leanne Mundy and they have three children. Mr. Mundy succeeds Alan Virtue.

**Guillermo E. Rishchynski** (BA, McGill University, 1975) joined the Department of External Affairs as a Trade Commissioner in 1982 after several years in the private sector, and has served abroad in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Amman, Melbourne and Jakarta. In Ottawa, he was Deputy Director, Latin America and Caribbean Trade Division, from 1989 to 1992. From 1996 to 1997, he was Director of the Team Canada Task Force. Since 1997, Mr. Rishchynski has been Deputy Consul General and Senior Trade Commissioner at the Canadian Consulate General in Chicago. He is married to Jeanette Portillo Tinoco and they have two children. Mr. Rishchynski succeeds William Ross.

**John Robinson** (BA Honours [History], University of Western Ontario, 1964; MA [History], University of Western Ontario, 1966; PhD studies, University of London, 1966-1968) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1968 and has served abroad in Geneva, Kingston, and Abidjan. From 1977 to 1979, he was Canadian Executive Director of the African Development Fund. In Ottawa, he undertook assignments in the Economic Relations with Developing Countries Division and at the Office of the Ottawa Economic Summit before joining the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in 1981 as Regional Director, Caribbean. At CIDA, he served as Senior Country Program Director, Americas, from 1982 to 1985 and as Vice-President, Americas, from 1985 to 1993. Since 1993, Mr. Robinson has been Vice-President, Policy. He succeeds Gavin Stewart.



**Susan Ann Thompson** (BA, University of Winnipeg, 1971) was elected Mayor of Winnipeg in 1992 and held that office until 1998. Ms. Thompson owned a family business, Birt Saddlery, from 1980 to 1995. She has been active in a large number of organizations, including the Downtown Winnipeg Association, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Winnipeg 2000, the Economic Council of Canada, the Winnipeg Foundation, The Urban Idea Centre, and the Interfaith Pastoral Institute. She has served on the boards of the Canada West Foundation and the University of Manitoba Faculty of Management. Ms. Thompson has been actively involved in the Canada-U.S. mid-continent corridor discussions, aimed at facilitating transportation, trade and investment links. Ms. Thompson succeeds Robert Déry.

**Christopher Westdal** (BA [Political Science], St. John's College, 1968; MBA [Public Policy], University of Manitoba, 1970) joined the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in 1973, after serving in Dar-es-Salaam with a University of Toronto Economic Advisory Team. He has served abroad in New Delhi, and from 1982 to 1985, was High Commissioner to Bangladesh. In 1991, Mr. Westdal was named Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa, a position he held until 1993. From 1995 to 1998, he was Ambassador to Ukraine. In Ottawa, he undertook assignments at CIDA and served as Regional Director, East Africa, from 1979 to 1982. From 1987 to 1991, he was Director General, International Organizations Bureau, at the Department of External Affairs, and in 1994, he was named Ambassador for Disarmament. In addition to his headquarters experience, Mr. Westdal twice served at the Privy Council Office, first as Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet Committee on Foreign and Defence Policy from 1977 to 1979, and again from 1986 to 1987 with the Foreign Policy and Defence Secretariat. Since 1998, he has been Special Advisor, African Strategy. He is married to Sheila Hayes. Mr. Westdal succeeds Mark Moher.

# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

June 10, 1999

(5:55 p.m. EDT)

No. 139

## AXWORTHY WELCOMES PROGRESS ON HUMAN SECURITY ISSUES AT OAS IN GUATEMALA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today highlighted progress made by Canada in advancing human security issues at the 29th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), held in Guatemala this week. The Canadian delegation was led by Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour.

"The OAS is an important forum for pursuing Canada's human security objectives," said Minister Axworthy. "I am pleased that ministers addressed issues such as the illegal drug trade, corruption, weapons proliferation and landmines, and that these remain at the forefront of the OAS agenda. There is a recognition that these threats respect no borders and affect the security of individuals throughout the hemisphere."

On behalf of Minister Axworthy, Secretary of State Kilgour led discussion among OAS Foreign Ministers on the problem of illegal drugs in the hemisphere. The Dialogue on Drugs was the culmination of a consultative process launched by Minister Axworthy in Jamaica in January.

Ministers agreed that the human security concept offers a valuable approach for addressing the drug issue. Secretary of State Kilgour shared with Foreign Ministers Canada's new publication, *Human Security: Safety for People in a Changing World*.

At the OAS meetings, Canada signed two conventions having important implications for the human security agenda in the Americas: the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions, which requires member states to submit data on exports and imports of conventional weapons; and the OAS Corruption Convention, which contains a list of acts of corruption, including bribery, considered to be criminal offences.

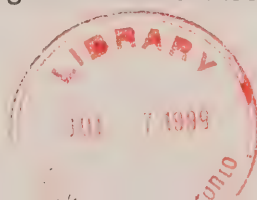
"The transparency encouraged by these two conventions represents an important confidence-building measure both globally and regionally," said Minister Axworthy.

While in Guatemala, Secretary of State Kilgour met with representatives of Canadian civil society organizations who were attending the General Assembly. He said, "Canada wants



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to ensure that civil society can bring its concerns, preoccupations and expertise to the Free Trade Area of the Americas process, to the work of the OAS and to the Summit of the Americas in 2001.” The Canadian delegation also met with the 32 civil society organizations present at the General Assembly.

On behalf of Minister Axworthy and Diane Marleau, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, Secretary of State Kilgour announced a \$400 000 contribution toward the establishment of a Parliamentary Network of the Americas. The OAS approved a resolution calling for a meeting of chairs of foreign relations committees in early 2000, as a first step toward building a formal network among legislators within the framework of the OAS.

The OAS General Assembly is the annual gathering of Foreign Ministers of the 34 democratically elected countries in the hemisphere. The next General Assembly will be held in Windsor, Ontario, from June 4 to 6, 2000.

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The publication *Human Security: Safety for People in a Changing World* is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/foreignp/HumanSecurity/menu-e.htm>

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# News Release

June 11, 1999

(4:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 140

## MINISTERS CONGRATULATE 1999 FOREIGN SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi, and Citizenship and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard today congratulated the five winners of the Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers' 1999 Canadian Foreign Service Officer Awards.

**Kathryn Aleong**, Canadian Embassy, Washington, D.C., received an award for an exceptional record in promoting Canadian environmental services and technologies in the U.S. market, leading to enhanced levels of trade, investment and business partnerships; for her creation, development and implementation of the *US Environmental Market Newsletter*, which attracted 1000 subscribers; and for her pivotal role in the staging of the highly successful, first-ever Canada-United States Businesswomen's Trade Summit.

**Éloi Arsenault**, Canadian Embassy, Paris, France, received an award recognizing that over a career of more than 25 years, he has been the embodiment of all the qualities that make up the ideal Foreign Service Officer in the immigration field, exhibiting strong leadership qualities, impeccable judgment about people and issues, and the highest standards of integrity, while at the same time always keeping Canada's interests at heart.

**Don Myatt** and **Jim Bissett**, Business Immigration Program, received a joint award for their remarkable achievement in building an integrated and effective Division with limited resources during a rigorous downsizing period, from a group of persons of widely differing backgrounds and skills, and thereafter going on to design and launch a new immigrant investor program that has found acceptance from federal, provincial and private-sector interests alike.

**Shelley Whiting**, Canadian Embassy, Bangkok, Thailand, received an award for her outstanding performance in securing support for the Anti-Personnel Mines Convention in Thailand and Laos, and for her dedication to Canada and Canadians by spearheading the efforts in locating and recovering the remains of six Canadian airmen who died in a plane crash in northern Burma in the final days of the Second World War.

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The Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers (PAFSO) is the official bargaining agent for Foreign Service Officers. PAFSO maintains a deep commitment to diplomacy and foreign policy issues, and to the foreign service as a profession. The Canadian Foreign Service Officer Awards were instituted in 1990 by PAFSO to acknowledge exceptional achievements by career Foreign Service Officers.

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This document is also available on the Web site of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade: <http://dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

June 11, 1999

(6:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 141

## PORTUGUESE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Portugal's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence, Jaime Gama, will make an official visit to Canada on June 14.

"Portugal is not only one of Canada's long-standing partners in peace and security issues as a member of NATO, but also one of the first countries to support the Ottawa Process banning the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines. Portugal also played a significant role in the first meeting of the State Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention held last month in Maputo, Mozambique," said Mr. Axworthy. "Mr. Gama's visit to Canada is an excellent opportunity to discuss human security issues such as the promotion of human rights and democracy, the ban on anti-personnel mines and the proliferation of small weapons."

In Ottawa, the two Ministers will meet to discuss bilateral relations, Portugal's upcoming presidency of the European Union in January 2000, Canada's priorities for the Security Council, Kosovo and common interests in the conservation of ocean resources, including ratification of the UN Fisheries Agreement. The two Ministers will sign a letter of intent on a Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation, which should give further impetus to the growing economic relations between the two countries.

Mr. Gama will also meet with National Defence Minister Art Eggleton to discuss the situation in Kosovo, including the Kosovo peace implementation force. "It is a pleasure to meet Minister Gama. Portugal is an important transatlantic NATO ally for Canada. I look forward to our exchange and to meeting Minister Gama again at the Informal Defence Ministerial Meetings in Toronto this September," said Minister Eggleton.

Mr. Axworthy last met with Mr. Gama in Lisbon in October 1998, on the occasion of the presentation of the North-South prize, which recognized Mr. Axworthy's leading role in securing a global ban on landmines.

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# News Release

Government  
Publications

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

June 14, 1999

(10:45 a.m. EDT)

No. 142

## BUSINESS LINKS ADVANCED THROUGH TRADE MISSION TO IRELAND

Canada's International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today headed a business development mission to Ireland that furthered strategic business ties and brought together more than 50 Canadian business delegates with Irish business partners.

"It's about trade and investment, in both directions. Ireland is a gateway to the E.U. market for Canadian companies, and Canada is an ideal gateway to the NAFTA, and to Asian and Latin American markets for Irish companies," said Minister Marchi.

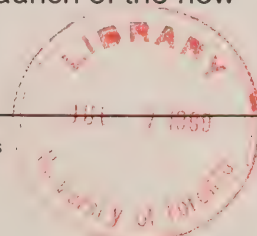
The Minister was also pleased to preside over the announcement of several new Canada-Ireland business ventures, including a transatlantic fibre-optic cable initiative and a signing to organize a youth job training program.

Two-way trade between Canada and the "Celtic tiger" is about \$4.2 million daily, with a total of \$1.5 billion in 1998. "Our trade with Ireland has doubled since 1995," said Mr. Marchi, "especially in high-tech fields that provide our two countries with strategic relevance across the globe."

The trade mission to Dublin strengthened these links by targeting the following sectors: information technology and software development; medical and health services; telecommunications; environmental services; agri-food; and construction and building products.

Ireland is Canada's fourth-largest destination for foreign investment, reaching \$8.2 billion by the end of 1998, up from \$1.2 billion by the end of 1988. Ireland's stock of investment in Canada was up to \$387 million at the end of 1998, up from \$67 million 10 years earlier, with room for more.

The Ireland program followed a day of business meetings by Minister Marchi in Northern Ireland. The Minister discussed the mutual benefits of trade, and how trade links can reinforce reconciliation in Northern Ireland. He also visited Short Brothers, a subsidiary of Bombardier, where the company announced the launch of the new "Continental" business



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jet, major parts of which will be manufactured at Montreal and at the Short Brothers' plant in Belfast.

The trade mission coincides Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Minister Marchi's visit to Northern Ireland, June 12-13, and Ireland June 13-15. Minister Marchi travels on to Belgium, before rejoining the Prime Minister in Cologne, Germany on June 18 for the Canada-E.U. Summit. The Minister then travels on to the Netherlands June 18-19.

A list of the members of the business delegation to Ireland may be found on the Internet ([www.infoexport.gc.ca/section4/missions/ireland](http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/section4/missions/ireland)).

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

June 15, 1999

(2:05 p.m. EDT)

No. 143

## CHAN WELCOMES SENIOR HONG KONG OFFICIAL TO CANADA

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan said today that he is pleased to welcome Anson Chan, Chief Secretary for Administration of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, to Vancouver on June 16 to 19. The Chief Secretary's visit comes at a time when Hong Kong is beginning its recovery from the serious economic crisis that struck it several years ago. The aim of the visit is to promote trade and investment in Hong Kong.

"I look forward to meeting with the Chief Secretary during her trip and I am delighted to have the opportunity to renew and improve the already close relationship between Canada and Hong Kong," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan.

He added, "More and more Canadians are realizing that Hong Kong is China's window to the world and a strategic gateway to foreign business contacts, modern technology and investment. While some might have expected our ties to become weaker after Hong Kong's transition to China, the fact is that our relations have grown closer."

Relations between Canada and Hong Kong go back to the last century, and in 1928 Canada opened its first trade office in Hong Kong. Currently, over 100 Canadian businesses have set up offices in Hong Kong and over 450 have agents there.

On June 17, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan will offer opening remarks during the conference entitled "Hong Kong Canada: Opportunities in Asia's Road to Recovery." Chief Secretary Anson Chan will be the keynote speaker at the conference.

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For more information on Canada-Hong Kong relations, please consult "Canada's Window on China" at the following Web site: <http://www.canada.org.hk/>



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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

June 15, 1999

(5:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 144

## AXWORTHY CONCERNED OVER ARREST OF IRANIAN JEWS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed his concern over the arrest of 13 Iranian Jews who have been charged with spying for Israel and the United States.

"Canada is disturbed by the arrests of Iranian Jews," said Mr. Axworthy. "I asked senior officials to call in the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran for a meeting, which took place earlier today, to underline Canada's concerns about the charges facing the accused and to seek assurances regarding their well-being. I have asked Iran for further assurances that the judicial process will be fair and will conform to the norms of international human rights law."

Canada has taken a leading role in seeking the protection of religious minorities in Iran at the United Nations, within the UN Commission on Human Rights and through bilateral discussions with Iranian authorities.

Last weekend, the Canadian Embassy in Tehran sought clarification from the Iranian Foreign Ministry on the nature of the charges, and received assurances that the accused would receive fair treatment and due process in accordance with Iranian law.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

June 17, 1999

(7:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 145

## EXECUTION OF JOSEPH STANLEY FAULDER: COMMENTS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy issued the following statement tonight:

Mr. Faulder was executed earlier this evening. On behalf of the Government of Canada, I extend my condolences to his family. I would also like to extend our condolences to the family of Inez Phillips.

The Government of Canada deeply regrets that the authorities of Texas did not accept its request for executive clemency and the commutation of Mr. Faulder's sentence to one of life imprisonment. The request was based on the Government's view that important international legal issues, especially those associated with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, be examined by U.S. officials and by the U.S. judicial process. These issues remain important ones for all Canadians who live, work and visit outside of Canada. As such, the Government of Canada will continue its efforts to ensure that the rights of Canadians in such circumstances are fully respected in accordance with the law.

The Government of Canada was grateful that its concerns were recognized and supported by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. "I also express my appreciation for the appeals for clemency made by Members of Parliament David Pratt, Peter Mancini and Richard Marceau during a visit to Texas on May 24, and by Daniel Turp, who pleaded Mr. Faulder's case this week before the Texas parole board."

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

June 17, 1999

(8:10 p.m. EDT)

No. 146

## AXWORTHY TO ATTEND NATO MINISTERIAL IN BRUSSELS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will attend a joint meeting of the North Atlantic Council foreign and defence ministers on June 18 in Brussels to take stock of NATO's progress in Kosovo.

Mr. Axworthy will be reviewing with his colleagues the urgent priorities for KFOR, the international military mission in Kosovo, including military demining, support for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), the establishment of public security, demilitarization of local military forces and refugee repatriation.

"Canada is pleased with the progress of the mission to date. Much work still needs to be done, however, to implement the terms of UN Security Council Resolution 1244," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada's priorities at this meeting are to advance demining efforts in Kosovo and to support the crucial work of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia."

While in Brussels, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Defence Minister Art Eggleton will also meet with the Chief Prosecutor for ICTY, Louise Arbour, and attend bilateral meetings with their respective NATO counterparts.

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# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

June 18, 1999

(9:30 a.m. EDT)

No. 147

## MARCHI WELCOMES ITALIAN TRADE MINISTER TO CANADA

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today welcomed the visit of Italian Trade Minister Piero Fassino to Canada. Minister Marchi will hold bilateral talks with Minister Fassino as a follow-up to the Canada-Italy trade talks held during Minister Marchi's visit to Italy in May 1998. Minister Fassino will be in Canada from June 18 to June 23, starting his visit in Vancouver and continuing to Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto.

"I am pleased that Minister Fassino accepted our invitation to visit Canada. I look forward to meeting with him and to continuing the important trade promotion work we began during our trip to Italy last year," said Minister Marchi.

Minister Fassino will be accompanied by a delegation of senior trade officials and business representatives from the telecommunications, aerospace and other industry sectors. Visits to prominent Canadian high technology companies and meetings with various Canada-Italy trade associations are also on the agenda.

"There are great opportunities for Canadian firms to improve their access to the Italian and European markets in the years ahead by developing partnerships with Italian business," said Minister Marchi. "The strong cultural ties that we share are a great advantage, and help promote trade and investment between our countries."

During this visit to Canada, Minister Fassino will meet with a number of other Canadian federal ministers including Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Public Works and Government Services Minister Alfonso Gagliano, Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief, and Fisheries and Oceans Minister David Anderson. Deputy Prime Minister Gray will host an agri-food trade luncheon for Minister Fassino and his delegation in Ottawa. Minister Fassino will also meet representatives from the governments of British Columbia, Quebec and Ontario.

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A backgrounder on Canada-Italy policy and trade relations is attached.





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## Backgrounder

### ITALY-CANADA ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Canada and Italy work together, usually taking similar approaches in the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations (G-7), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Ministers meet regularly to discuss complex issues, including further liberalization of international trade.

#### Canada-Italy Trade

In 1998, Italy was Canada's 8th-largest trading partner and the 12th-largest export market for Canadian products. Canadian exports reached \$1.5 billion in 1998. In that year Italy enjoyed a two-to-one imbalance in our \$5.0 billion annual trade.

Trade flows between Canada and Italy are complementary, with Canada providing semi-processed materials for Italy's manufacturing industries and serving as a market for Italy's finished products and consumer goods. A brief glance at the major specific product sectors in 1998 reflects this situation:

Exports to Italy	C\$ M	Imports from Italy	C\$ M
Wood pulp & other pulp	422.8	Machinery & equipment	939.0
Cereals	178.3	Footwear	191.2
Wood & articles thereof	112.0	Electrical machinery	171.2
Machinery, equipment & parts	102.9	Beverages	149.0
Ores, slag & ash	79.4	Vehicles o/t railway stock, parts	146.6
Paper & paperboard	65.8	Woven apparel	117.5
Mineral fuel, oil	60.6	Ceramic products	111.3
Nickel & articles thereof	59.6	Organic chemicals	110.7
Electrical machinery	35.7	Furniture & bedding	106.2
Optic, NT 8544; medical instruments	34.7	Optic, NT 8544; medical instruments	104.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1525.0</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3470.0</b>

Even within the specific sectors, the complementarity is quite marked, with Canada very often providing the raw material of the subsequent Italian export. This is the case, for example, with Canadian durum wheat used in Italian pasta, Canadian hides and skins in Italian footwear and leather goods, Canadian wood in Italian furniture, Canadian wood pulp in Italian fine papers, etc.

### **Market Access**

With the extension of the European Union (EU) free trade area, however, and progressive facilitations granted former European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and East European nations, many Canadian products that once had relatively secure markets in Italy are subject to increased competition. Other factors that continue, in greater or lesser degree, to hamper growth of Canadian exports to Italy include currency exchange rate fluctuations, high tariffs, non-tariff trade barriers and a lack of corporate links.

### **Partnering Opportunities**

Very few Canadian companies have corporate links to Italian firms. Such links are essential, however, for any suitable long-term arrangements for industrial co-operation, product development, market sharing, etc., and can often be the only means of penetrating a market as highly industrialized as that of Italy. Firms that have European partners and/or a European manufacturing presence may be able to significantly improve their penetration of the Italian market in the years ahead, as the government moves to deregulate large areas of basic services in accordance with EU directives.

### **Italian Investment in Canada**

Italian investment stock in Canada increased from \$343 million to \$672 million over the period from 1988 to 1998. The most current official statistics (1998) show that Italy is the 14th-largest direct investor in Canada. However, these statistics undervalue Italian foreign direct investment, since many Italian firms funnel investments through holding companies in the Netherlands, Switzerland, Luxembourg or the United States, for tax reasons.

In 1996, the finance and insurance industry was the largest Italian direct investor in Canada, at \$140 million. In 1997, the agri-food industry led, at \$705 million. Many Italian companies have invested in Canada, including Pirelli, Italcementi, Elsig Bailey, Montedison, Mapei, Mondo Rubber and, most recently, Parmalat, the Italian agri-food giant.



### **Canadian Investments in Italy**

Canadian investments in Italy increased from \$178 million to \$733 million over the period from 1988 to 1998. In 1998, Italy was the 25th-largest recipient of Canadian direct investment. Some of the Canadian companies located in Italy are Alcan, Dominion Textiles, Moore, Newbridge Networks, Meridian Technologies and Nortel.



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# News Release

June 18, 1999

(2:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 148

## CANADA WELCOMES CONVENTION TO ELIMINATE THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Labour Minister Claudette Bradshaw today welcomed the announcement that the General Conference of the International Labour Organization (ILO) has reached agreement on a new convention concerning the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

"Exploitative child labour is a sad and tragic condition that robs children of their youth, and society of its future," said Minister Bradshaw. "I am pleased that we have been able to achieve the unanimous support of our ILO partners to work together to eliminate these unacceptable practices and protect the world's children."

"I am particularly pleased with the specific reference to the plight of children in armed conflict in this convention, a major element of Canada's human security agenda," said Minister Axworthy. "We must build on this to establish the highest possible standard in the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child."

The purpose of the Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour is to protect children, the most vulnerable members of society. The Convention uses the term "child" to refer to any person under the age of 18, and defines the worst forms of child labour, such as all forms of slavery or similar practices — for instance, the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage, serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; the use, procuring or offering of children for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances, or for illicit activities, such as the production or trafficking of drugs; and work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

The Government of Canada has consulted with worker and employer organizations such as the Canadian Labour Congress, the Confédération des syndicats nationaux and the Canadian Employers Council, as well as with various NGOs, the provinces, the territories and like-minded countries, in preparation for the Conference. The Minister of Labour will



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work closely with representatives from other departments and from the provinces and territories to achieve Canadian ratification of the Convention.

Under the auspices of the UN Commission on Human Rights, a working group is in the process of developing a draft "Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict." This Protocol is aimed at preventing the participation of children in hostilities and raising the age of their recruitment into armed forces. Under the Convention, the current minimum age of recruitment is 15.

The International Labour Organization is a UN Specialized Agency based in Geneva, Switzerland.

- 30 -

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This document is available on the Internet sites of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and of the Labour Program of the Department of Human Resources Development: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> and <http://labour.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca>

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

June 18, 1999

(3:10 p.m. EDT)

No. 149

## SYRIAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Syria's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Farouk al-Shara'a, will make an official visit to Canada from June 20 to 23.

"This visit is a significant development in Canada's bilateral relations with Syria," said Minister Axworthy. "I welcome the opportunity to discuss the Middle East peace process and Syria's role in the region."

The Syrian Minister's first visit to Canada will begin in Ottawa, where he will meet with Minister Axworthy on June 21 to discuss the Middle East peace process, the promotion of human rights and bilateral issues. Mr. Shara'a will then attend a reception at the University of Ottawa.

Mr. Shara'a will visit Toronto to meet with the Canada-Arab Business Council on June 22 and then travel to Montreal to attend a reception at the Syrian Consulate on June 23.

Mr. Shara'a's visit will be highlighted by the official opening of the Embassy of Syria, reflecting the development of closer ties between Canada and Syria.

Mr. Axworthy last met with Mr. Shara'a in Damascus, in November 1997, during his visit to the Middle East.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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# News Release

International Trade  
Commerce international

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

June 18, 1999

(3:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 150

## CANADA CO-SPONSORS THE FIRST-EVER INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS WOMEN IN EXPORT SEMINAR

The Government of Canada and New Zealand's Ministry of Women's Affairs are co-sponsoring the first-ever Indigenous Women in Export Seminar from June 18 to 20 in Wellington, New Zealand.

The seminar brings together about 70 Aboriginal businesswomen from APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum) economies to share best business practices and to discuss the challenges faced by indigenous women who have been successful in building firms both domestically and internationally. The seminar gives Aboriginal-owned small and medium-sized enterprises a forum for greater involvement in the APEC trade network and supports their efforts to export their products and services to APEC markets.

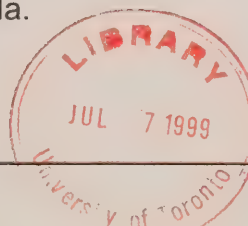
"This is a unique opportunity to learn from the first-hand experiences of Aboriginal women who are already exporting their products and services," said International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi. "It's a valuable learning situation, both for the participants and for the APEC economies that are looking for ways to support these businesswomen so they can grow and flourish in the global marketplace."

The first international event of its kind for Aboriginal businesswomen, the APEC-related seminar precedes the Women Leaders' Network meeting. Recommendations from the seminar will be made to the APEC ministers of trade at the end of June.

Four Aboriginal Canadian businesswomen will attend: Francine Whiteduck of Whiteduck Resources Inc. (Ottawa); Joanne Pender of Plastic Rotational Containers (Calgary); Shirley Moorhouse of Drumdancer Art and Crafts (Goose Bay, Labrador); and Carol Ann Barnaby of Abanaki Association (Ottawa). Seventeen other APEC member economies will also send participants.

Canadian partners supporting the event include the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, the Canadian International Development Agency and Aboriginal Business Canada.

- 30 -



For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

June 21, 1999

(12:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 151

## **SIGNING OF THE BOOK OF SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE 2001 FRANCOPHONIE GAMES**

International Co-operation Minister and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau today presided over a ceremony in Ottawa commemorating the signing of the Book of Specifications of the Organizing Committee of the 2001 Francophonie Games (OCFG).

The Book of Specifications specifies the obligations of the Committee as mandated by the Canadian government for the organization of the IVth Games of La Francophonie, which will take place in Ottawa and Hull July 14 to 24 2001. The document sets out the roles and responsibilities of the International Committee and the Organizing Committee; among other things, it includes the official schedule as well as the Games' organizational and production components.

"The signing of this document officializes the rules of the Games, the mandate of the Organizing Committee and the logo of the Games," said Madame Marleau. "Canada is firmly committed to making a success of the sport and cultural event that is the Francophonie Games."

The Book was signed by Minister Marleau, Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps, Government House Leader and President of the Orientation Committee of the Francophonie Games, Don Boudria, and by co-presidents of the OCFG, Guy Matte and Michel Drouin.

The Minister responsible for the Promotion de la Jeunesse of the Government of the Republic of Mali and President of the Conférence des Ministres de la Jeunesse et des Sports and of the Comité international des Jeux de la Francophonie, Boubacar Karamoko Coulibaly, also signed the document. The Secretary-General of the Francophonie Games, Michel Dach, also attended the ceremony.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Chantal Reinert  
Office of the Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible  
for La Francophonie  
(819) 997-6919

Organizing Committee of the 2001 Francophonie Games  
(613) 749-5389

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and  
International Trade Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

June 21, 1999

(5:25 p.m. EDT)

No. 152

## AXWORTHY WELCOMES SYRIA'S RENEWED COMMITMENT TO PEACE PROCESS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today held discussions with Syrian Foreign Affairs Minister Farouk al-Shara'a on Canada's bilateral relations with Syria and on Syria's role in the Middle East peace process.

"I was encouraged to hear from Mr. Shara'a that Syria is fully committed to re-engaging in negotiations with Israel as part of a comprehensive Middle East peace process," said Mr. Axworthy. "I assured the Minister that Canada will continue to play an active role in facilitating a peace settlement."

During their meeting, Mr. Axworthy congratulated Mr. Shara'a on the opening of the Syrian Embassy as a further demonstration of the growing ties between Canada and Syria. Minister Axworthy took the opportunity to brief Minister Shara'a on the results of the G-8 Summit and the recent NATO Foreign Ministers meeting. The two Ministers also had a full exchange on developments in the Middle East, particularly on the Middle East peace process and on Iraq.

Minister Axworthy visited Syria in November 1997 and at that time invited Minister Shara'a to pay a reciprocal visit to Canada. This is the first visit to Canada by a Syrian Foreign Affairs Minister.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-ma.eci.gc.ca

June 28, 1999

(2:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 153

## CANADA ANNOUNCES EMERGENCY RESPONSE INITIATIVES TO ADDRESS MINE SITUATION IN KOSOVO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced emergency response initiatives to address the threat of landmines in Kosovo to assist in the safe return of refugees. Canada is sending two organizations to take part in the initial mine clearance response. The Minister also announced that Jill Sinclair, Canada's Mine Action Ambassador, will travel to Skopje and Pristina June 29 and 30 to further assess Canada's role and to better inform refugees of the dangers of mines.

"Anti-personnel mines are strewn by the tens of thousands across the countryside, poisoning the land from which Kosovo's people derived their sustenance. They are at once the cruel instrument and the bitter legacy of conflict and hatred," said Mr. Axworthy. "Rapid action, such as these Canadian initiatives, is therefore needed to clear these mines to allow for the safe return of refugees and to help prevent future landmine victims."

Earlier this month, Canada and Belgium co-funded a UN mine action assessment mission to Kosovo, which has led to the establishment of the Kosovo Mine Action Co-ordination Centre (KMACC). The KMACC, expected to be operational within days, will co-ordinate mine action efforts. One of its first priorities will be to co-ordinate emergency humanitarian demining to enable the safe return of refugees.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade will provide \$200 000 to send Wolf's Flat Ordnance Disposal Corporation and the Canadian International Demining Centre (CIDC) to Kosovo to take part in this initial emergency response. Wolf's Flat, a company owned by the Tsuu T'ina Nation near Calgary, has recently completed an unexploded ordnance removal project in Panama. CIDC, a Sydney-based non-governmental organization, is currently clearing mines in Bosnia.

Ambassador Sinclair will be accompanied to Kosovo by Nobel Peace Prize winner Jody Williams. With the support of UNICEF, they will visit refugee camps around Skopje, and in Pristina will discuss the prospects for mine clearance with UN, military and local officials, as well as mine action NGOs. They will also meet with Canadian Forces engineers currently clearing mines in Kosovo.



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The Minister also welcomed the establishment of the Canadian Landmine Foundation, a non-profit organization that is dedicated to raising funds for international mine action. The Foundation will give Canadians an opportunity to contribute to ongoing mine action programs in Kosovo and elsewhere. Canada is contributing \$1 million in initial seed money for the Foundation.

Funding for this initiative comes from the Canadian Landmine Fund, which was established in December 1997 following the signing of the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel mines. The \$1 million contribution will be equally financed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and the Canadian International Development Agency.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

July 2, 1999

(10:50 a.m. EDT)

No. 154

## SECRETARY GENERAL OF LA FRANCOPHONIE VISITS CANADA

Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau today announced the Ottawa visit, from July 4 to 6, of Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary General of La Francophonie, for the 25th Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie (APF).

"We will take advantage of Mr. Boutros-Ghali's presence in Canada to advance preparations for La Francophonie Summit scheduled for Moncton, New Brunswick, this September," said Madame Marleau.

With this in mind, the Secretary General of La Francophonie will hold talks with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, New Brunswick Premier Bernard Lord, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Madame Marleau.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali also plans to visit various facilities that will be used for the sports and cultural events slated for the Francophonie games in July 2001.

The APF, the consultative assembly of La Francophonie founded in 1967 and chaired by Senator Jean-Robert Gauthier, consists of representatives from 59 legislatures including Canada's Parliament and the provincial assemblies of Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Quebec.

The APF initiates and sets in motion activities in the areas of interparliamentary co-operation and democratic development within the international francophone community.

- 30 -



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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



International Trade  
Commerce internationale

# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

July 2, 1999

(5:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 155

## MARCHI WELCOMES ARGENTINE DELEGATION OF BUSINESSWOMEN TO CANADA

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today welcomed a delegation of 13 Argentine businesswomen led by Argentina's Secretary of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Ana Kessler. The visit follows the signing on May 20 of a Memorandum of Understanding between Canada and Argentina to encourage export trade between small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in both countries, with emphasis on women-owned businesses.

"Women-owned businesses are one of the fastest-growing industry segments in Canada. By sharing their expertise and building partnerships, women business owners will be well positioned to take advantage of the increased trade between Canada and Argentina that we expect as a result of this agreement," said Minister Marchi.

The delegation will meet with Canadian business owners to share information about Canada-Argentina trade, as well as to develop business contacts, form strategic alliances, develop agreements, and begin negotiation of joint ventures.

Secretary Kessler will also share information and discuss programs and services to assist business development of SMEs with officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Export Development Corporation, Industry Canada, Status of Women Canada and Canadian International Development Agency in Ottawa before travelling to Toronto for meetings with the Business Development Bank of Canada, Bank of Nova Scotia, Women Entrepreneurs of Canada, Women Business Owners of Canada, and Canadian Council for the Americas.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and  
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# News Release

July 5, 1999

(2:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 156

## CANADA GOES TO WTO ON AUSTRALIAN SALMON BAN

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Fisheries and Oceans Minister David Anderson announced today that the Government will be requesting authority from the World Trade Organization (WTO) to enable Canada to retaliate against Australia for its continued ban on imports of Canadian fresh, chilled and frozen salmon.

In 1998, a WTO panel ruled that Australia's ban was scientifically unjustified and discriminatory, and contrary to Australia's international trade obligations. An Australian appeal to the WTO Appellate Body failed. In February 1999, a WTO Arbitrator gave Australia until July 6, 1999, to implement the WTO rulings. On July 5, 1999, Australia announced that it would not be able to meet the July 6 deadline. Canada's position is that the WTO rulings oblige Australia to remove the ban.

"We are disappointed that Australia has not met the July 6 deadline," said Minister Marchi. "The WTO has ruled twice in our favour. It is important for all WTO members to meet their international obligations."

Minister Marchi said that Canada would be seeking authority that would permit Canada to impose a surtax on imports of certain Australian products. Under the WTO rules, Canada has until August 5 to request this authority.

"There are simply no reasonable grounds for maintaining this long-standing prohibition against Canadian salmon," said Minister Anderson. "Australia's alleged rationale for the ban — fish health protection — clearly has no scientific basis, as the WTO rulings show. It is time for Australia to remove the ban."

In the absence of compliance, the WTO provides that Canada and Australia may agree to compensation as a temporary measure until Australia implements the WTO rulings. If no agreement can be reached, Canada has the right to request authorization from the WTO to retaliate.



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On May 29, the Government of Canada announced a 30-day consultation period with Canadians on a proposed list of products that might be subject to 100 percent surtaxes. The final list of products would be based on the comments received from the public and the level of retaliation authorized by the WTO Dispute Settlement Body.

- 30 -

For more background information on this issue, please consult the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) dispute settlement Web page at <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/dispute-e.asp>

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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(613) 992-7332

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874

This document is also available on the DFAIT Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

July 6, 1999

(12:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 157

## MARCHI APPOINTS FACILITATOR FOR LUMBER CONSULTATIONS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today appointed Doug Waddell, a senior Canadian diplomat, to lead the federal government's formal consultations on policy options for Canada's softwood lumber industry. The Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Agreement is set to terminate at the end of March 2001.

"These consultations with the provinces and industry stakeholders will enable us to develop a Canadian approach on what action will be taken when the current softwood lumber agreement expires," said Minister Marchi. "By getting the ball rolling this early, I want to ensure that all viewpoints are taken into account well in advance of the expiry date."

Canada's softwood lumber trade with the United States is about \$9 billion annually. In 1996, Canada concluded an agreement with the United States on trade in softwood lumber, at the request of the provinces and the majority of lumber producers in Canada. A separate agreement maintained the traditional exemption of Atlantic Canada lumber producers from restrictions affecting Canadian lumber exports to the United States.

Doug Waddell is Minister (Economic) and Deputy Head of Mission at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C. He will continue in his current position in Washington while undertaking these consultations with provincial governments, representatives of softwood lumber producers, labour unions and federal elected representatives.

- 30 -

A brief biography of Mr. Waddell is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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(613) 992-7332

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Department of Foreign Affairs and  
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## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

**Douglas G. Waddell** (BA Honours, University of Manitoba, 1969) was appointed Minister and Deputy Head of Mission at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C., in January 1996. Previously, he was Director General, Trade Policy Bureau, and Co-ordinator for the North American Free Trade Agreement. He was Director General, United States Trade and Economic Policy Bureau, from 1987 to 1991. Prior to that, Mr. Waddell had various trade policy assignments relating to Canada–U.S. trade relations and Canada's participation in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. He served at the Canadian Embassy in Washington as First Secretary from 1973 to 1976. In the course of these duties, Doug Waddell has had extensive experience with Canada–United States softwood lumber issues.

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# News Release

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July 12, 1999

(4:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 158

## CANADA RECEIVES WTO ARBITRATION REPORT

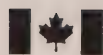
International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief today received a World Trade Organization (WTO) arbitration report setting \$11.3 million as the value of trade damage suffered by Canada because of a continued European Union (EU) beef ban. The WTO Arbitrator's decision is final and cannot be appealed.

"The report vindicates Canada's position that the EU ban is arbitrary and unjustified. Although we received less than we asked for, we received more than the EU argued we were owed," said Minister Marchi. "Obviously, we wish the award had been higher." The Minister said all lines of communication with the EU would be open to achieve compensation for the loss, but if that was not quickly forthcoming Canada would move to retaliation.

"We are disappointed that a higher value of impairment was not put forward by the Arbitrator," added Minister Vanclief. "But we will continue to press the EU to open its market to high-quality Canadian beef."

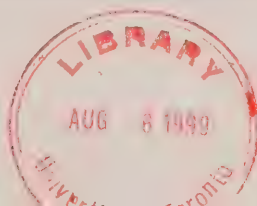
Canada has consistently opposed the EU ban on Canadian beef since it began in 1989. In 1997, a WTO panel made it clear the EU ban on beef produced with growth hormones is not based on scientific evidence and therefore is inconsistent with the EU's WTO obligations. This finding was confirmed by the WTO Appellate Body in 1998, and a WTO arbitrator gave the EU until May 13, 1999, to comply with the rulings. On April 17, 1999, Canada announced a 30-day comment period on a proposed list of products that might be subject to tariff increases in the event that the EU did not comply. On May 13, the EU indicated that it would not lift its ban.

On June 3, 1999, Canada had requested authority from the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) to retaliate against the EU in response to the EU's failure to comply with the WTO rulings against its ban on imports of Canadian beef. At the same meeting, the EU requested arbitration on the amount of retaliation Canada was seeking, which precluded the DSB from granting Canada the authorization to retaliate. Canada must now resubmit



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its request to the DSB for authority to retaliate and intends to do so at the next meeting on July 26.

Canada's decision on the final list of products that may be subject to retaliation will reflect the comments received and the value of retaliation authorized by the DSB. The Government will make an announcement by the end of July on the final list.

- 30 -

Background information on this issue is available at:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac>

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Sylvie Millette LeDuc  
Office of the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food  
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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



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# News Release

July 15, 1999

(12:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 159

## CANADA APPEALS WTO DAIRY RULING

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vancielief today launched Canada's formal appeal of a March 25 World Trade Organization (WTO) decision that found Canada's dairy pricing system for certain exports to be an export subsidy. The panel also recommended changes to the way Canada administers its Tariff Rate Quota for fluid milk.

"This appeal demonstrates our firm commitment to Canada's dairy industry," said Minister Marchi. "We have been working closely with the provinces and the industry to prepare Canada's submission, which we are delivering to the WTO on July 19."

"Canada believes that its dairy industry pricing practices conform with WTO rules," said Minister Vancielief. "We will work closely with the industry to make a strong case before the Appellate Body."

The Government of Canada served its official Notice of Appeal to the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body and provided copies to all other parties involved in the dispute. The appeal is expected to be heard on September 6 and a decision is expected in mid-October.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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This press release is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

The introduction to Canada's submission to the WTO will be available on the DFAIT Web site on July 19: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac>



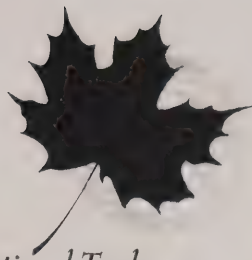
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International Trade  
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# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

July 16, 1999

(12:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 160

## MARC LALONDE TO CHAIR THE AMERICAS BUSINESS FORUM

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today announced the appointment of Marc Lalonde, a former Canadian Finance Minister and a current international trade expert and lawyer, as Chair of the fifth Americas Business Forum (ABF).

"Marc Lalonde is a prominent member of Canada's business and legal communities. He possesses in-depth knowledge of the challenges that the private sector faces in our rapidly globalizing world," said Minister Marchi.

Business leaders from all parts of the Hemisphere will attend *ABF Canada* from November 1 to 3, 1999. The Toronto event is the primary mechanism for private sector input to FTAA (Free Trade Area of the Americas) negotiations at the ministerial level.

During the Summit of the Americas in Miami in December 1994, leaders stated that the common goal was to reach a single, comprehensive free trade agreement among the 34 countries of the Hemisphere by the year 2005. Canada has chaired the first phase of the FTAA negotiation process. At the next FTAA ministerial meeting, to take place in Toronto on November 3 and 4, 1999, immediately following the ABF, the chair will be passed to Argentina.

Marc Lalonde is a partner and internationally acknowledged expert in dispute resolution at the law firm of Stikeman, Elliott in Montreal. His practice focusses primarily on the areas of foreign investment, international commercial arbitration, and legal and administrative reforms of economies in transition to a market economy. He served in senior positions in the Canadian federal government, including as Minister of Finance, Minister of Justice, Minister of Health and Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

- 30 -

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Department of Foreign Affairs  
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Ministère des Affaires étrangères  
et du Commerce international

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# News Release

International Trade  
Commerce international

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

July 18, 1999

(9:30 a.m. EDT)

No. 161

## MUNICIPALITIES RECEIVE FUNDING TO ATTRACT FOREIGN INVESTMENT

Sixty-eight municipalities will receive \$1.6 million from a federal program to assist in their efforts to attract foreign direct investment, International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi announced today. One hundred and fourteen projects have received funding through the Program for Export Market Development - Investment or "PEMD-I," including projects for Halifax, Montreal, Quebec City, Toronto, Saskatoon and other, smaller centres.

"Investors may choose a country, but they invest in a community," said Minister Marchi. "My job is to show why Canada is the country, and PEMD-I helps municipalities to show why they are the community."

PEMD-I was announced by Minister Marchi on January 13, 1999, with an annual budget of \$5 million. It has a two-tier approach.

Tier One helps communities to become investment-ready or to implement modest initiatives to attract investment. Typically, Tier One support will cover training, database development, studies, development of plans, and implementation of investment attraction initiatives. Tier Two is intended to support larger projects aimed directly at attracting investment to Canada. These projects are to complement ongoing community economic development programs.

"We need to attract investment, right down to the community level," said Minister Marchi. "This is teamwork at its best — the public and private sectors in partnership to produce jobs for our communities."

The minister pointed out that one Canadian job in ten is attributable to foreign direct investment. It boosts Canada's business know-how, technology base, and spending on research and development. Canadian exports find buyers more easily with more international business linkages. And Canada becomes more competitive in the international marketplace, which means jobs and economic prosperity for communities in every part of the country. "If communities are interested in these kinds of benefits, I urge them to consider how the PEMD-I program could help them," added Mr. Marchi.



New applicants are invited to contact Barbara Elias of Investment Partnerships Canada, at (613) 941-3555.

The program and its operating criteria are described on the Department's Internet site: [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/investcan/frames-e.htm](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/investcan/frames-e.htm)

- 30 -

A backgrounder listing the projects is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Barbara Elias  
Investment Partnerships Canada  
(613) 941-3555



## **Backgrounder**

### **PEMD-I SUPPORT UNDER TIER I: 1998-1999 & 1999-2000 (TO DATE)**

<b>Province</b>	<b>PEMD-I Support (\$)</b>
<b>Alberta</b>	
Alberta First Com Ltd.	25 000.00
Alberta Industrial Heartland	40 000.00
Alberta's Industrial Heartland	6 100.00
Calgary Economic Development Authority	29 187.00
Calgary Economic Development Authority	38 000.00
Central Alberta Economic Partnership	15 000.00
Central Alberta Economic Partnership	26 500.00
County of Warner	889.00
Crowsnest Pass Economic Development Board	4 150.00
Crowsnest Pass Economic Development	14 100.00
Drayton Valley Brazeau Economic Development	2 175.00
Drumheller Regional Chamber of Development	1 000.00
Economic Development Edmonton	39 000.00
Economic Development Edmonton	47 500.00
Ermineskin First Nation	24 332.00
Leduc-Nisku	9 000.00
Town of Edson	921.00
Vulcan County	750.00
<b>British Columbia</b>	
City of Victoria	50 000.00
District of Tumbler Ridge	1 927.28
District of Tumbler Ridge	1 132.55
Economic Development Commission for the Central Okanagan	25 000.00
Economic Development Commission for the Central Okanagan	15 000.00
Greater Vancouver Economic Partnership Society	50 000.00
North Okanagan Development Corporation	26 200.00
Prince George Region Development Corporation	853.00
Prince George Region Development Corporation	1 113.05

**Manitoba**

City of Winnipeg	40 000.00
Eastman Regional Development Inc.	11 200.00
Eastman Regional Development Inc.	17 500.00
East Parkland Economic Development	925.00
MacDonald Development Corporation	20 000.00
Westman Economic Development Association Inc.	37 500.00

**New Brunswick**

Commission d'expansion économique de la Péninsule	10 500.00
Commission économique de Kent	1 175.00
Municipalité de Dieppe/Parc industriel	982.00
Synergy Network NB (tri-city area — Moncton, Fredericton and St. John)	31 593.00

**Newfoundland**

No projects were submitted.

**Nova Scotia**

Cape Breton County Economic Development Authority	19 029.50
Guysborough County Regional Development Authority	50 000.00
Lunenburg Queens Development Agency	28 644.00
Strait-Highlands RDA	10 000.00
Western Valley Development Authority	1 248.00

**Ontario**

Canada's Technology Triangle	49 850.00
Canada's Technology Triangle	1 050.00
City of Cornwall	22 987.00
City of Mississauga	38 875.00
City of Sault Ste. Marie	47 850.00
City of Sault Ste. Marie	46 600.00
City of Sault Ste. Marie	28 800.00
City of Toronto	25 000.00
City of Toronto	26 000.00
City of Toronto	3 672.00
County of Lennox & Addington	21 750.00
County of Oxford	4 775.00
Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance (GTMA)	2 750.00

London Economic Development Corp.	50 000.00
Niagara Economic & Tourism Corporation	25 000.00
North Bay Economic Development Commission	605.00
Ottawa Economic Development Corp.	50 000.00
Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth	31 063.00
Sarnia-Lambton Office of Economic Development	17 500.00
Town of Richmond Hill	7 625.00
Township of Osgoode	683.00

### **Prince Edward Island**

Charlottetown Area Development Corp.	30 000.00
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### **Quebec**

Centre local de développement économique des Moulins	50 000.00
CLD des Cantons de l'Est (Haute-Yamaska)	7 500.00
CLD de la municipalité de Francheville	50 000.00
CLD de la MRC de Memphrémagog	20 000.00
CLD Vaudreuil-Soulanges	28 850.00
Commissariat au développement économique de Boucherville	17 349.00
Conseil de développement des affaires de West-Island	50 000.00
Conseil régional de concertation et de développement de la Gaspésie et des Îles de la Madeleine	27 250.00
Laval Technopole	22 384.00
Laval Technopole	21 000.00
Montréal International	45 469.00
Montréal International	44 939.00
Montréal International	22 144.00
Montréal International	21 323.00
Montréal International	14 461.00
Montréal International	14 461.00
Montréal International	14 461.00
Montréal International	14 461.00
Montréal International	13 386.00
Montréal International	86 000.00
Parc technologique du Québec métropolitain	38 387.00
Société de développement économique de Drummondville	8 000.00
Société de développement économique de la région sherbrookoise	24 000.00
Société de développement économique Thérèse-de-Blainville	16 500.00
Société de diversification économique de l'Outaouais	15 142.00
Société de diversification économique de l'Outaouais	36 500.00
Société de promotion économique du Québec métropolitain	10 000.00



Société de promotion économique du Québec métropolitain	13 127.00
Société de promotion économique du Québec métropolitain	5 358.00
Société de promotion économique du Québec métropolitain	5 250.00
Ville d'Anjou	5 000.00
Ville Mont-Royal	5 745.00
Ville Mont-Royal	6 500.00

### **Saskatchewan**

Carlton Trail Regional Economic Development Authority	15 531.20
City of Prince Albert	740.00
Regina Regional Development Authority	20 000.00
Saskatchewan Economic Developers Association	4 257.00
Saskatchewan Economic Developers Association	14 250.00

## **PEMD-I SUPPORT UNDER TIER II: 1998-1999 & 1999-2000 (TO DATE)**

<b>Community Organization</b>	<b>PEMD-I Support (\$)</b>
Greater Halifax Partnership, Halifax, NS	51 400.00
Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance, Toronto, ON	238 487.00
Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance, Toronto, ON	30 000.00
Montréal International, Montreal, Que.	300 000.00
Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority	50 000.00
Société de promotion économique du Québec métropolitain	150 000.00

# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

July 19, 1999

(4:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 162

## CANADA WELCOMES SUDAN PEACE TALKS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the resumption of the peace talks on Sudan and urged the parties to come to a negotiated settlement. The Minister also announced that David Pratt, Member of Parliament, Nepean-Carleton, will attend the regionally mediated talks on July 20 to 23, in Nairobi, Kenya, on behalf of the Government of Canada.

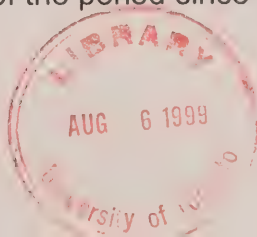
"Civilians are the principal casualties of Sudan's civil war, and children in particular are the most vulnerable. The international community must increase its efforts to end this conflict," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada urges the parties to show flexibility and to commit themselves to a timetable for ongoing negotiations."

The negotiations will be mediated by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), which aims to promote peace and development in the Horn of Africa and whose members include Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda. Kenya chairs the IGAD committee, which is seeking a peaceful solution to the conflict between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army. This peace process has been accepted by all parties to the conflict and represents the best opportunity to end the conflict.

Mr. Pratt represents Canada as an observer and as a member of the IGAD Partner Forum (IPF) in support of the talks. The IPF includes donor countries that are providing support for the IGAD's peace and development efforts. Mr. Pratt recently travelled to Sierra Leone as special envoy to assess the humanitarian and security situation.

Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for la Francophonie Diane Marleau announced a contribution of \$400 000 from the Peace Building Fund in June of this year to support the Sudan peace negotiations. The funds will be disbursed through a Canadian non-governmental organization, Project Ploughshares, which seeks to link humanitarian, development and security concerns in a multidimensional response to the conflict. The project also aims to engage members of Sudanese civil society in supporting the IGAD.

The civil war that has afflicted Sudan for most of the period since 1956 is one of the most



intractable conflicts in the world today. Over 1.9 million people have died and more than 4 million people are displaced. Canada has provided over \$100 million since 1990 in humanitarian aid to Sudan.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

July 19, 1999

(6:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 163

## AXWORTHY TO ATTEND ASEAN MEETINGS AND VISIT THAILAND

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he will attend two annual meetings of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) with its dialogue partners in Singapore before proceeding to Thailand for a brief visit. The ASEAN gatherings — the 6th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the 32nd ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference (PMC) — will take place in Singapore from July 25 to 28.

"As an Asia-Pacific nation, Canada has a strong interest in participating in, and contributing to, discussions of regional political, economic and security issues with the ASEAN and our fellow dialogue partners," said Mr. Axworthy. "Concerns about the financial crisis in Asia have dominated the agenda over the past two years. Now that we seem to be facing a gradual but steady turn-around on that front, it is time to turn our focus to other human security issues that may affect peace and stability in Asia."

Canada has been an ASEAN dialogue partner since 1977, and Canadian foreign ministers have participated in the ARF since it was established in 1993 as an informal multilateral forum on regional security in Asia Pacific. The ARF is immediately followed by the PMC, a forum for the ASEAN and its 10 dialogue partners to discuss international and regional political and economic issues. The ARF/PMC agenda items will include security, the challenges faced in southeast and northeast Asia, and regional concerns, such as the economic and financial crisis, social safety nets, the environment and transnational issues.

Minister Axworthy will proceed to Bangkok from July 28 to 30, where he will meet with his counterpart, Foreign Minister Surin Pitsuwan, and Deputy Prime Minister Bhichai Rattakul. "Thailand recently joined the Lysøen Agreement for joint action on human security issues, and in so doing has become our key partner in the region in advancing this dialogue. I look forward to discussing with Foreign Minister Surin how human security can be specifically applied to Asia," said Mr. Axworthy.



Human security will also be on the agenda of Mr. Axworthy's meeting with representatives of Thai non-governmental organizations. The Minister will also meet with Canadians engaged in business in Thailand.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

July 20, 1999

(2:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 164

## CANADIAN GOVERNMENT FIRST ON BOARD TO SUPPORT MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC IN AID OF THE KOSOVO CULTURAL COMMUNITY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced federal funding of \$200 000 for a major cultural event called *The Return*, an International Festival of Music & Theatre, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and UNICEF, to support the rebuilding of the Kosovo cultural and education community. Spearheaded by actress Vanessa Redgrave, the event will feature artists from around the world, including Canada.

"Canada is helping rebuild Kosovo. That rebuilding effort must not only focus on bricks and mortar; we must also help rebuild the human spirit," said Mr. Axworthy. "As the first government to get behind this initiative, Canada is once again signalling its strong commitment to human security. It is also important for Canadian artists to play a major role on the international scene and actively help the Kosovars survive as artists and families."

Directed by Enver Petrovci and Vanessa Redgrave, produced by Bill Kenwright, and supported by a host of artists including, among others, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Bono, Elton John, Sting and Meryl Streep, *The Return* will feature Canada's Men of the Deepes and Tribe of One.

The International Festival of Music & Theatre will take place in Skopje, Macedonia, on September 10, with a concert featuring Philip Glass and Foday Musa Suso. On September 11, in Pristina, Kosovo, the stage will host, among others, the Martha Graham Dance Company and the premiere performance of *The Cursed*, written and directed by Enver Petrovci, with Vanessa Redgrave. The closing concert on September 12, again in Pristina, will feature world-renowned musicians such as violinist Akiko Ono and pianist Katharina Wolpe.

Vanessa Redgrave, recently filming in Halifax, approached Mr. Axworthy because of Canada's major role in the landmines issue. "Canada's human security agenda is well known on the international scene and is a natural fit for the humanitarian effort we are undertaking in Kosovo," said Ms. Redgrave. "The reaction was instant and positive and will



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go a long way in helping us reach our goal of aiding Albanian Kosovar children and young people recover their cultural spirits with the confidence that they have a future.”

Men of the Deeps is a miner's choral group from Nova Scotia that performs traditional Cape Breton folk songs. Tribe of One is a group of professional artists from Winnipeg (four musicians, two dancers and two visual artists) incorporating rock music, dance and artists painting live on stage with an art therapy approach.

Tribe of One received a grant of \$20 000 under the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Children in Armed Conflict Program to conduct music and art therapy throughout Kosovo. The remaining \$180 000 in federal funding is provided under the Department's International Cultural Relations Program. This program supports initiatives in the arts and higher education undertaken abroad.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1999 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

July 21, 1999

(9:15 a.m. EDT)

No. 165

## CANADA CONTRIBUTES PERSONNEL TO UN MISSION TO EAST TIMOR

The Government of Canada today announced that it has provided three police officers and 26 election specialists to the United Nations Mission to East Timor (UNAMET). UNAMET's mandate is to co-ordinate and carry out a ballot in August on the future status of the territory. The Canadian International Development Agency will contribute up to \$2 million for this initiative.

In May 1999, the UN sanctioned an agreement between Portugal and Indonesia setting out a plan for wide-ranging autonomy to be proposed to the East Timorese in August. In June 1999, UN Security Council resolution 1246 established UNAMET, a contingent of approximately 5000 personnel, including up to 280 civilian police, 50 military liaison officers, and political and electoral components, to implement the agreement.

"Canada has actively supported international efforts to resolve the situation of East Timor, and I condemn the recent incidents of violence directed against East Timorese civilians and United Nations personnel, which may put these efforts at risk," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. "We remind the Indonesian government and security forces of their responsibility to establish a secure environment for East Timorese and representatives of the international community in the lead-up to the ballot. The task of building peace and reconciliation cannot succeed without their co-operation."

The 26 election specialists will work under the aegis of the International Organization for Migration. That agency is co-ordinating the polling process for the several thousand East Timorese who are eligible to vote but live in Portugal, Indonesia, Macau and Mozambique.

"By sharing their expertise, Canadian police officers and electoral supervisors can help restore peace and stability in the region," said Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Diane Marleau. "We are supporting this initiative so that the people of East Timor may one day thrive and live in a democratic, stable and prosperous society."



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The three officers are members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Two of them, who are already in Darwin, Australia, are serving as pre-deployment trainers for UNAMET civilian police.

"We are very pleased that these law enforcement officers will have the opportunity to share their expertise with local and international colleagues," said Solicitor General Lawrence MacAulay. "I know Canada can count on their professionalism and ability to serve the UN well."

Funding for the initiative announced today was provided for in the February 1999 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>





International Trade  
Commerce internationale

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

July 21, 1999

(10:00 a.m. EDT)

No. 166

## REPORT ON CANADA'S EXPORT DEVELOPMENT ACT TABLED IN PARLIAMENT

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi announced today the tabling of the report by the law firm Gowling, Strathy & Henderson reviewing Canada's Export Development Act.

"The Gowling report meets our statutory obligation to review Canada's Export Development Act and to provide a report to Parliament," said Minister Marchi. "The Gowling team was tasked with the most comprehensive review of the Export Development Corporation's trade finance activities that has ever been done. I am pleased that their report can now be made available to parliamentarians, as well as to interested members of the public."

The tabling of the report meets the terms of the Export Development Act, which states that the Minister must cause a review of the Act to be initiated in 1998, and then must submit a report to Parliament one year later for review by a parliamentary committee.

Comments concerning the report are welcome, and should be forwarded to the Minister prior to October 8, 1999. All comments received will be shared with the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade, which will be responsible for reviewing the report.

The complete text of the Gowling report is available on the Internet at:  
<http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/section4/menu-e.asp>

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

July 22, 1999

(4:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 167

## AXWORTHY TO PARTICIPATE IN CULTURAL EVENTS DURING PAN AM GAMES

The signing of the People's Landmine Treaty, a Cyber Café and a Mardi Gras Street Festival are among the activities the Government of Canada will support at the XIII Pan American Games taking place in Winnipeg, July 23 to August 8, 1999.

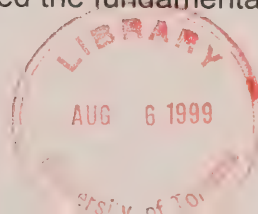
"The Games are a celebration of the Americas community and of Canada's dedication to the nations of the western hemisphere," said Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Foreign Affairs. "Many of the events the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade is supporting during the Games reflect this reality — both from a foreign policy and a cultural perspective."

Minister Axworthy will participate in the opening of the Canada Place Pavilion on July 23 at The Forks site in Winnipeg, where a Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) exhibit will showcase some of Canada's most recent achievements in foreign affairs. Visitors can also learn about Canada's role in the Americas at an interactive kiosk where they can log on to Cyber Café and explore DFAIT's new Web site (<http://www.AmericasCanada.org>).

"Our significant and valued contributions in banning landmines, helping war-affected children, and supporting international peacekeeping and the United Nations will be highlighted," stated the Minister. "I invite everyone to come to Canada Place and sign the People's Landmine Treaty which will be there for the duration of the Games."

At this year's Royal Bank Ballet in the Park (from July 28-30 at Assiniboine Park), citizens can support anti-landmines work by contributing to a pass-the-hat collection to raise money for the newly established Canadian Landmines Foundation.

Minister Axworthy addressed an International Women's Conference held on July 21. The theme of the conference was On the Edge of Tomorrow: Celebrating Achievement, Embracing Challenges, and was jointly sponsored by DFAIT, the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg. Participants discussed the fundamental leadership role that women provide in the Americas.



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The Minister is also participating in several other activities at the Pan American Games. He hosted Team Canada athletes at a kick-off rally on July 21, and today will inaugurate the Market Square Mardi Gras — a street festival featuring entertainers from Manitoba and from across the Americas which is being sponsored in partnership with the City of Winnipeg.

Several very original cultural initiatives aimed at fostering relations between the hemisphere's arts communities have been made possible with assistance from DFAIT's International Cultural Relations Program. This program helped launch the Pan American New Creation Project — a collaborative project between three modern dance companies from Canada, Mexico and the United States (the Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers, the DELFOS Danza Contemporanea and the Neo Labor) — which is premiering in Winnipeg on July 22. The Department, in co-operation with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, also assisted with the commissioning of Drunken Butterflies which will serve as a cultural legacy of the XIII Pan American Games.

Canada will host the Americas over the next two years on a number of occasions. After welcoming the hemisphere's youth to the Pan Am Games in July and August, the Ninth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government will be held in Ottawa in September; the FTAA Trade Ministers Meeting and the Fifth Americas Business Forum will take place in Toronto this November; the OAS General Assembly will visit Windsor in June 2000; and Canada will host the hemisphere's leaders at the 2001 Summit of the Americas in Quebec City.

Minister Axworthy will attend the annual meetings of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in Singapore, July 25-28, and will visit Bangkok until July 30 where he will discuss with leaders Thailand's recent joining to the Lysøen Agreement on human security. He will then return to Winnipeg to cheer on the athletes during the final week of competition and to attend the official closing ceremonies of the XIII Pan American games.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

July 26, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 168

## CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES TO CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL-TRAFFIC-IN-ARMS REGULATIONS (ITARs)

While attending the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Regional Forum (ARF) meeting in Singapore, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright reviewed the bilateral consultations thus far on the International-Traffic-in-Arms Regulations (ITARs).

They had previously agreed, April 22, to use the 120-day review period to "implement the ITAR regulations in such a way as to mitigate the effects on the North American defence industry and to determine what those effects are. Both [were] committed to evaluate and revisit the core issues of technology transfers and safeguards by the end of this period."

Senior officials have been working diligently and will continue to do so in fulfilment of our joint objectives. We recognize that additional time beyond the initial 120-day period will be required to complete this effort.

Both governments remain committed to reaching a mutually satisfactory resolution of all outstanding issues at the earliest possible date.

- 30 -

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# News Release

July 27, 1999

(11:00 a.m. EDT)

No. 169

## CANADA WELCOMES CAMBODIA TO THE ASEAN-CANADA ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today signed an exchange of letters welcoming the accession of Cambodia to the 1993 Canada- ASEAN Economic Co-operation Agreement. The signing took place during a meeting between Minister Axworthy and his Cambodian counterpart, Hor Namhong, during the ASEAN Regional Forum and Post-Ministerial Conference meetings in Singapore, which are being held from July 25 to 28.

"Canada is pleased to welcome Cambodia as a party to the Canada-ASEAN Economic Co-operation Agreement," said Mr. Axworthy. "Further expanding this agreement will contribute to the prosperity of our economies and, by extension, to stability in the region."

The Canada-ASEAN Economic Co-operation Agreement formalized enhanced co-operation in the industrial, technical, commercial, and development co-operation fields. More specifically, the agreement promotes regular consultations between the private sector and governments to undertake bilateral and regional economic projects. It also encourages the parties to promote a mutually beneficial investment climate.

In addition to Cambodia, parties to the Canada- ASEAN Economic Co-operation Agreement include Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. With the accession of Cambodia, Burma remains the only ASEAN member that is not a party to the agreement.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

July 27, 1999

(4:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 170

## CANADA TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETING ON THE RESTORATION OF PEACE IN SIERRA LEONE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that David Pratt, Member of Parliament for Nepean-Carleton, will represent Canada at a meeting of the Sierra Leone Contact Group in London, England, on July 28, 1999, to support the process of national reconciliation and to address measures for the reconstruction of Sierra Leone.

This meeting follows the signing of a peace accord on July 7 to end the eight-year conflict and restore stability and security in Sierra Leone. The agreement was signed in Togo's capital, Lomé, by the President of Sierra Leone, Ahmad Kabbah, and rebel leader, Foday Sankoh.

"Canada is encouraged by the positive developments in Sierra Leone directed at ending years of conflict which has killed and terrorized thousands of people," said Mr. Axworthy. "This meeting aims to bring forth concrete proposals necessary for the implementation of the peace accord as well as for the safety, development and economic prosperity of the people of Sierra Leone."

Approximately representatives of 22 countries are scheduled to attend the meeting, including President Kabbah, along with representatives from the United Nations, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the European Commission, the Organization of African Unity, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Since December 1998, Canada has provided \$4.2 million in humanitarian assistance to Sierra Leone. This aid includes emergency health care, shelter for displaced persons, care and maintenance of Sierra Leonean refugees in Guinea, eventual repatriation of refugees from countries of asylum and various peacebuilding activities. In addition, Canada contributed \$1 million in non-lethal support to the Military Observer Group of ECOWAS.

In March 1999, Mr. Pratt travelled to Sierra Leone as a special envoy to assess prospects for the restoration of peace and stability.

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# News Release

July 28, 1999

(11:20 a.m. EDT)

No. 171

## MINISTER MARLEAU PARTICIPATES IN THE ACADIAN WORLD CONGRESS IN LOUISIANA

The Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, Diane Marleau, will visit Louisiana from July 30 to August 3, to participate in the activities commemorating the tricentennial of this American state. She will also attend the opening ceremony of the Second Acadian World Congress, in the city of Houma, on August 1.

During her stay in New Orleans, Madame Marleau will extend a personal invitation, on behalf of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, to the Lieutenant-Governor of Louisiana, the Honourable Kathleen Babineaux-Blanco, to attend the Summit of La Francophonie in Moncton this coming September.

The Minister will then travel to Lafayette to meet with leaders of the Cajun community and with leaders of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL).

"This visit to Louisiana, the home of the Cajuns, is of particular importance on the eve of the Moncton Summit in Acadia," said Madame Marleau. "I would like to pay a very special tribute to the courage and determination of those in the Cajun community who have safeguarded the roots of this very rich culture and language."

The Minister will also greet participants in the Pélagie caravan, a group of New Brunswick Acadians who are travelling all the way to Louisiana for the Acadian World Congress. During a stopover in Washington, D.C. last Tuesday, the group was greeted at the Canadian Embassy.

The Moncton Summit will take place from September 3 to 5. This gathering of heads of state and of government of member countries of La Francophonie will be the first to be held under the direction of a Secretary-General — and the last of the millennium. The Summit's main theme is youth, with the economy and new technologies as secondary themes.



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Canada will also be in the forefront of La Francophonie early in the new millennium, as it will host the fourth Francophonie Games in 2001.

- 30 -

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

July 28, 1999

(2:10 p.m. EDT)

No. 172

## CANADA, CHINA AND NORWAY HOLD JOINT SYMPOSIUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that Canada, along with China and Norway, co-hosted the Second Plurilateral Symposium on Human Rights in Qingdao, China, on July 26 and 27.

"This gathering is a concrete result of Canada's ongoing engagement with China on human rights and good governance issues," said Minister Axworthy. "China's involvement in the Symposium, particularly as co-host, represents progress in mutual efforts to explore and develop initiatives aimed at greater understanding and further implementation of international human rights standards."

"Canada is pleased to have initiated the Symposium and to have maintained its regional focus," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan. "The involvement of Asia-Pacific countries with varied economic, social, political and cultural backgrounds makes for a rich dialogue on human rights. The involvement of academics, practitioners and policy makers promotes valuable insights for all participants on both the theory and the practice of human rights."

This year's Symposium covered four agenda items: implementation of the International Covenant on Political and Civil Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Cultural and Social Rights (discussion led by China); rights of minorities (discussion led by Norway); labour rights (discussion led by China); and freedom of expression (discussion led by Canada).

Observer countries invited to this year's Symposium included Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand. Norway was invited to join in co-hosting the Symposium in recognition of the May 1998 Lysøen Agreement between Canada and Norway, under which the two countries formed a partnership for joint action on international human security issues. This Symposium will contribute to the increasing attention being paid to human rights throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

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A backgrounder on Canada's involvement in promoting human rights in China is attached.

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## **Backgrounder**

### **CANADA AND CHINA: HUMAN RIGHTS, GOOD GOVERNANCE AND THE RULE OF LAW**

- Canada works with the Chinese government and through international institutions to urge that China respect its obligations under the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In 1997, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs announced a package of human rights initiatives between Canada and China.
- Canada and China have established a joint committee on human rights to address such issues as political and civil rights, religious freedoms, economic, social and cultural rights and women's and children's rights. The committee met twice in 1997 and in November 1998 in Winnipeg. A fourth meeting is being planned for later this year in Beijing.
- Another important element of the package of human rights initiatives is the Plurilateral Human Rights Symposium series. The first conference took place in March 1998 in British Columbia and marked the first time that China co-hosted a human rights event involving several countries. The symposium series provides an opportunity for participating countries, primarily from the Asia-Pacific region, to discuss a range of human rights issues.
- As part of the package announced in 1997, Canada is helping to review China's criminal procedure law, an adversarial trial system and a legal aid system. Canada is also helping implement China's obligations under conventions of the United Nations.
- Frequent high-level contact with Chinese leaders over the past year has enabled Canada to address its concerns and to share views on issues at the forefront of Chinese reform. These include structural problems in government institutions and the role of government in China. Canada is committed to frank discussions with Chinese authorities on human rights issues and continues to urge China to quickly ratify and implement international covenants on civil and political rights and on economic, social and cultural rights.
- Development assistance is an important way of advancing human rights, democracy and good governance. Many projects are under way to encourage China to reform its legal and judicial structures by increasing the transparency of legal processes and to adapt these structures to needs arising from economic reform. Specific projects include support for research on human rights, technical assistance on revising criminal law to better protect the rights of the accused, carrying out laws to protect women's rights, criminal law reform, training for judges and senior prosecutors, support for the development of a national legal aid system, and a program to support governance and civil society.





# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

July 28, 1999

(2:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 173

## MARCHI ANNOUNCES SPONSORSHIP CAMPAIGN FOR HEMISPHERIC TRADE CONFERENCES

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi today launched a corporate sponsorship campaign to support the upcoming Americas Business Forum (ABF) and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) meeting to be held consecutively in Toronto, November 1 to 4. These international events are expected to draw over 2000 public and private sector executives from the western hemisphere.

"Holding these conferences in Canada demonstrates the major commitment that both government and industry have made to help shape the future of our hemisphere, its development and its integration. These conferences are also an unprecedented opportunity for Canadians to showcase Canadian leadership and achievements," said Minister Marchi.

The negotiation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas presents a unique opportunity to create the world's largest free trade area with a population of 800 million and an expected combined GDP of \$15 trillion by 2005.

Participating in the ABF and FTAA Corporate Sponsorship Campaign provides the Canadian private sector with an opportunity to gain recognition, to build partnerships on an international level, and to enhance its role in the economic growth of the region.

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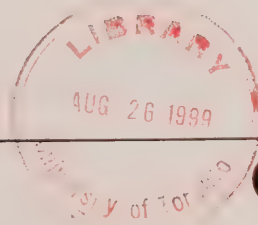
More information about the ABF and FTAA meetings or corporate sponsorship campaign is available at: <http://www.americascanada.org>

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Hemisphere Summit Office  
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International Trade  
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Publication

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# News Release

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July 29, 1999

(9:45 a.m. EDT)

No. 174

## CANADA RETALIATES AGAINST THE EU

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief announced today that tariffs of 100 percent will be imposed on certain imports from the European Union (EU) beginning August 1. This action is in response to the EU's failure to implement trade rulings made by the World Trade Organization (WTO) on Canadian beef produced using growth hormones.

"Canada is taking this action in response to the EU's failure to abide by its international trade obligations," said Minister Marchi. "Canada is a trading country that favours and depends on trade rules. Our exporters need assurances that the government will act to defend their export interests in accordance with Canada's WTO trading rights."

"Canada has consulted closely with the cattle industry throughout this 10-year dispute, and we will continue working together until there is a satisfactory resolution," said Minister Vanclief. "Our goal is to regain access to the EU market, not retaliate. But since the EU has neither opened its market, nor offered acceptable interim compensation, we have no choice but to retaliate."

Canada's action will affect EU exports of beef, pork, cucumbers and gherkins to Canada. The retaliation on beef will prevent all EU beef from entering Canada. Last April, the Canadian government engaged in broad consultations on a proposed list of products that could be subject to retaliation. The retaliation list announced today is the result of that consultation.

In accordance with WTO rules, the retaliatory duties imposed by Canada today will remain in effect until the EU complies with its WTO obligations. Compliance with the obligations would mean either that the EU restores market access to Canadian beef, or that Canada and the EU reach a mutually satisfactory solution that includes appropriate compensation to Canada. The ministers emphasized that the EU has not offered a reasonable compensation package.

Canada has consistently opposed the EU ban on Canadian beef since it was imposed in 1989. In 1997, a WTO panel ruled that the EU ban on beef produced using growth



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hormones is not based on scientific evidence and is therefore inconsistent with the EU's WTO obligations. This finding was confirmed by the WTO Appellate Body in 1998, and a WTO arbitrator gave the EU until May 13, 1999, to comply with the rulings. On April 17, Canada announced a 30-day consultation period on a proposed list of products that might be subject to tariff increases if the EU did not comply. On May 13, the EU indicated that it would not lift its ban. On July 26, Canada received authority from the WTO Dispute Settlement Body to retaliate against the EU.

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The final retaliation list and a backgrounder are attached.

More information on this issue is available at:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/dispute-e.asp>

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## **Backgrounder**

### **HISTORY OF THE DISPUTE**

- In 1989, the European Union (EU) banned the use of growth-promoting hormones in livestock and imposed a ban on the importation of meat derived from cattle treated with these hormones.
- Both Canada and the United States consistently opposed the EU's import ban on the grounds that it was not based on scientific evidence and therefore created an unjustified barrier to trade.
- The import ban has effectively shut Canada out of the EU market at a time when Canada's capacity to export beef had been expanding.
- The Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO), which took effect in 1995, provided an opportunity for Canada to challenge the consistency of the EU ban under the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement).
- WTO members, including Canada and the EU, negotiated the SPS Agreement to ensure that, while countries have the right to provide the level of health protection they deem appropriate, sanitary and phytosanitary measures must be based on science and they should not be misused as disguised restrictions on trade.
- Canada conducted a review of all six growth-promoting hormones at issue and found them to be safe when used in accordance with good veterinary practices.
- Five of the six growth-promoting hormones at issue were reviewed and endorsed by the Codex Alimentarius, an international body established to set and harmonize food safety standards. It was determined that these hormones did not present a risk when used according to good veterinary practices.
- In July 1996, Canada held formal WTO consultations with the EU regarding the ban. The consultations were unsuccessful in resolving the dispute, and Canada requested the establishment of a WTO dispute settlement panel. The Panel was established in October 1996.
- The Dispute Settlement Panel released its final report in August 1997. The report concluded that there was no justification for the ban and that the EU was in violation of its WTO obligations.
- The EU exercised its right under the WTO dispute settlement procedures and



appealed the panel report in September 1998.

- The Appellate Body, which released its report on January 16, 1998, also concluded that there was no scientific basis for the ban and that the EU was in violation of its WTO obligations.
- The Dispute Settlement Body of the WTO adopted the Panel and Appellate Body reports on February 13, 1998.
- Following the adoption of the reports, the EU requested four years to implement the rulings. Canada did not agree since the time requested was well in excess of the 15-month guideline given to WTO members to implement rulings, and the matter was referred to an arbitrator.
- The WTO Arbitrator concluded that there were no particular circumstances to justify giving the EU more than 15 months to implement the rulings and gave the EU until May 13, 1999, to comply with its WTO obligations.
- In the event that the EU failed to comply with the WTO rulings, the WTO provided that Canada and the EU may enter into discussions on compensation. If agreement could not be reached on compensation, Canada had the right to request the Dispute Settlement Body to authorize the imposition of retaliatory duties.
- Canada views compensation and retaliation as temporary solutions pending full compliance with WTO rulings.
- As the May 13, 1999, deadline approached, it became increasingly clear that the EU would not meet the deadline.
- The EU initiated preliminary discussions with Canada on compensation, but the two sides have remained far apart on the value of compensation owed and product coverage.
- On April 17, 1999, the Government published a notice in the *Canada Gazette* to request comments on a proposal to increase tariffs on certain EU products in the event that the EU did not meet the May 13, 1999, deadline for implementation, and that it should become necessary to request authorization to retaliate.
- The *Canada Gazette* notice provided a preliminary list of products from which a final list of products would be selected. Tariffs of 100 percent would be imposed on products in the final list. Interested parties were given until May 17 to provide comments.

- The EU did not meet the May 13, 1999, deadline for implementation.
- On May 14, 1999, the Government announced that Canada would be requesting authorization from the WTO Dispute Settlement Body to retaliate against the EU for its continued ban. Under the rules of the Dispute Settlement Understanding, Canada had 30 days following the May 13, 1999, deadline (i.e., until June 12) to make its requests.
- At the June 3, 1999, meeting of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body, Canada requested authorization to retaliate on EU products valued at \$75 million annually. The EU requested arbitration on the amount of retaliation that Canada was requesting. This precluded the Dispute Settlement Body from granting the authorization to retaliate pending completion of the arbitration process.
- On July 12, 1999, the WTO Arbitrators determined that the value of Canada's nullification or impairment suffered as a result of the EU ban was \$11.3 million annually.
- On July 26, Canada resubmitted its request to the WTO Dispute Settlement Body for authorization to retaliate against the EU and its Member States in an amount of \$11.3 million annually. The authorization was granted.
- On July 29, Canada announced the list of products that will be subject to a 100-percent duty beginning on August 1, 1999.
- The products affected are all in the meat sector (beef and pork), except for cucumbers and gherkins.
- The retaliation against beef will preclude the EU from exporting its subsidized beef to Canada, an issue that has concerned the Canadian beef industry for some time.
- Under the terms of a bilateral agreement with Canada concluded in 1995, the EU undertook to limit to 5 000 tonnes its subsidized beef exports to Canada. While the EU has not been able to export beef to Canada because of BSE and other sanitary issues, the EU nevertheless has the potential to resume exports should the BSE and the sanitary issues be resolved.
- As for tariff item 020329, which includes pork products such as frozen spareribs and boneless cuts, Canada is creating a tariff rate quota of 2 970 metric tonnes commencing on August 1, 1999. Products imported in excess of 2 970 metric tonnes will be subject to a 100-percent duty. Products imported within the tariff

rate quota will continue to be duty-free.

- The tariff rate quota for frozen pork from the EU will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Information on the administration of the tariff rate quota is contained in a Notice to Importers available on the following Internet site:  
[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca~eicb](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca~eicb)
- The final retaliation list is based on comments received in response to the April 17, 1999, *Canada Gazette* notice and the value of retaliation established by the WTO Arbitrators.
- As indicated before, Canada's objective remains access for Canadian beef.
- The retaliatory duty will remain in effect until the EU restores access for Canadian beef or until the EU and Canada come to an agreement on satisfactory compensation.



## FINAL RETALIATION LIST <sup>(1)</sup>

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION
0201	Meat of bovine animals, fresh or chilled
0202	Meat of bovine animals, frozen
020311	Meat of swine, fresh or chilled, carcasses and half-carcasses
020312	Meat of swine, fresh or chilled, hams, shoulders and cuts thereof, with bone in
020319	Meat of swine, fresh or chilled, other
020321	Meat of swine, frozen, carcasses and half-carcasses
020322	Meat of swine, frozen, hams, shoulders and cuts thereof, with bone in
020329	Meat of swine, frozen, other : Tariff rate quota created in the amount of 2 970 tonnes. Products imported in excess of 2 970 metric tonnes will be subject to a 100 percent tariff <sup>(2)</sup>
020629	Bovine edible offal, frozen, other
07070099	Cucumbers and gherkins, fresh or chilled, other
16022090	Livers of any animal prepared or preserved, other
160242	Shoulders and cut thereof of swine prepared or preserved
160249	Swine meat & meat offal, excluding livers, including mixtures, prepared or preserved
160250	Bovine meat and meat offal excluding livers, prepared or preserved

<sup>(1)</sup> Goods that are in transit to Canada on or before August 1, 1999, are excluded from this measure.

<sup>(2)</sup> The tariff rate quota will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Information on the administration of the quota is contained in a Notice to Importers available on the following Internet site: [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca~eicb](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca~eicb)



# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

July 31, 1999

(2:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 175

## CANADA CONDEMNS THE MURDER OF SRI LANKAN MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT DR. NEELAN TIRUCHELVAM

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today strongly condemned the murder of Dr. Neelan Tiruchelvam on July 29, 1999.

Dr. Tiruchelvam was a leading figure in the search for a peaceful solution to Sri Lanka's long-standing ethnic conflict, as well as a tireless advocate for human rights. He was a Member of Parliament, a Constitutional Lawyer, Director of the International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES), and Director of the Law and Society Trust.

"This crime has silenced the voice of a man who was committed to the path of peace, but it must not silence those in Sri Lanka who have the courage to follow Dr. Tiruchelvam's lead," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada expresses its sympathies and condolences to Dr. Tiruchelvam's family and colleagues, and we call on the government of Sri Lanka to undertake a vigorous and rapid investigation of this crime and to bring those responsible to justice."

Mr. Chan expressed his personal sadness on hearing the news. "During our meeting in Sri Lanka, in June 1995, Dr. Tiruchelvam and I discussed a wide array of societal and governmental problems that he was trying to address through his work at the ICES. His contributions to civil society in Sri Lanka will be sorely missed."

Dr. Tiruchelvam's murder by a suicide bomber is seen as an attempt by extremist elements within Sri Lanka to derail imminent constitutional reforms that Dr. Tiruchelvam was instrumental in drafting.

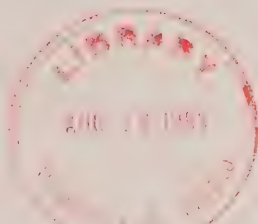
Canada has supported the ICES and the Law and Society Trust through the Human Rights Fund, Peacebuilding Fund and Canada Fund. Other organizations working toward deepening the commitment to human rights, good governance and conflict resolution have also received support.

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# News Release

August 2, 1999

(12:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 176

## WTO CONFIRMS CANADA'S WIN ON BRAZILIAN AIRCRAFT SUBSIDIES

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi and Industry Minister John Manley today announced that the rulings by the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization (WTO) confirm earlier decisions on Brazil's PROEX export subsidy program, Technology Partnerships Canada (TPC) and Export Development Corporation (EDC) as they apply to regional aircraft.

"We are pleased with the decision on PROEX, since it addresses a serious threat to the Canadian aerospace industry and resolves a long-standing dispute between Canada and Brazil," said Minister Marchi. "Canada looks forward to Brazil's immediate and complete implementation of this decision."

In rejecting Brazil's appeal, the WTO Appellate Body confirmed that Brazil must withdraw the PROEX export subsidies within 90 days. The WTO further confirmed that Brazil cannot pay PROEX subsidies that have been committed on aircraft that have yet to be delivered, thereby prohibiting Brazil from paying about C\$6 billion committed for firm orders and options.

The Appellate Body also upheld the earlier WTO panel ruling that Technology Partnerships Canada's support for regional aircraft is inconsistent with WTO rules.

"Canada benefits from and supports a rules-based multilateral trade system," said Minister Manley. He confirmed that in light of the ruling he will move quickly to consult with industry stakeholders on options for implementing this decision.

"I am confident that Technology Partnerships Canada can be adjusted to be consistent with the clarification of WTO rules. TPC will continue to play an important role in the government's research and development strategy," said Minister Manley.

The Appellate Body denied Brazil's appeal regarding Export Development Corporation. The Appellate Body found that there are no grounds for concluding that either EDC lending or EDC's equity investment in Canadian Regional Jet Capital constitute subsidies. These programs remain unaffected by the rulings.



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These Appellate Body decisions must be adopted by the WTO Dispute Settlement Body within 20 days and implemented 90 days later by the respective countries.

The Canadian aerospace sector comprises more than 400 companies and employs approximately 60 000 people across Canada; it exceeded C\$15 billion in sales in 1998.

Canada and Brazil took complaints regarding support for regional aircraft to the WTO in July 1998. WTO panels reviewed Brazil's PROEX program and seven Canadian programs. In April 1999 rulings, these panels found that PROEX, Technology Partnerships Canada, and Canada Account were prohibited export subsidies as applied to regional aircraft. Canada appealed the ruling on Technology Partnerships Canada, and Brazil appealed the rulings on PROEX and on Export Development Corporation.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Web site at: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



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International Trade  
Commerce international

August 3, 1999

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

(11:55 a.m. EDT)

No. 177

## 1999 CANADA EXPORT AWARDS TO CELEBRATE EXCELLENCE OF CANADIAN ENTREPRENEURS

International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi announced today that more than 240 companies are competing for this year's top honour in Canadian exporting, the prestigious Canada Export Awards.

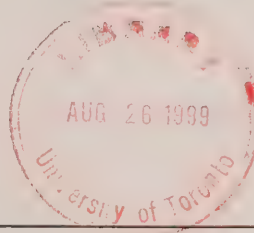
"As we head into the year 2000, exporting will take on an importance and prominence never seen before," said Minister Marchi. "With more than 40 percent of Canada's economic output devoted to exports, these companies represent the fastest-growing sector of the Canadian economy. They are our new heroes. They are key to our success as one of the world's leading trading nations. Exports drive Canada's growth and prosperity."

Canada continues to be one of the world's leading trading nations and the most export-oriented of the G-7 industrialized economies. This remarkable fact is thanks in part to the more than 3500 businesses that have competed for the Canada Export Award during the program's 17-year history. It is the vision of these companies that will ensure that Canada continues to lead the way in the global marketplace of the future. And it is the Canada Export Awards that celebrate the achievements that Canada's export champions have made in bringing Canadian products to the world.

The Canada Export Awards celebrate the success of the country's top exporters. Since its inception in 1983, 200 companies have been recognized for their success in expanding their business vision beyond Canada's borders. "Our exports have almost doubled in the past six years, and the majority of these are finished goods," added Minister Marchi. "Three million Canadian workers owe their jobs to foreign markets. These companies deserve to be honoured for their insight and their courage."

Each year, a select number of firms from across Canada are chosen by a panel of their peers. The panel looks for:

- the ability to compete globally;
- a spirit of innovation;
- an appetite for risk; and
- a commitment to excellence.



Department of Foreign Affairs  
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères  
et du Commerce international

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Winning companies range in size from small businesses to multinationals and represent a broad spectrum of industries, from food processing to transportation equipment, electronics, consulting engineering, consumer products and telecommunications.

Three companies will be honoured by the program's corporate sponsors: job creation achievement will be honoured by CIBC; smaller exporter achievement by Export Development Corporation; and innovation and technology achievement by Teleglobe.

"This year, we had more than 240 companies compete for the Awards," said Minister Marchi. "But you'll have to wait until the presentation of the awards on October 6 to find out which 10 will be able to call themselves 1999 Canada Export Award winners, and which one will be Canada's Exporter of the Year!"

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

August 4, 1999

(5:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 178

## AXWORTHY AND EGGLETON WELCOME NEW NATO SECRETARY-GENERAL

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and National Defence Minister Arthur Eggleton today welcomed the appointment of United Kingdom Defence Minister George Robertson as the next Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

"Mr. Robertson demonstrated outstanding ability as a minister, and his experience in European politics and international relations will be a great asset," Minister Axworthy said. "His leadership will be valuable as the Alliance pursues peace in the Balkans and implements the decisions of the Washington Summit."

"Mr. Robertson played a leading role in NATO's response to the Kosovo crisis," Minister Eggleton said. "He is eminently qualified for this important new post in which he will enjoy Canada's support and confidence."

The two ministers also paid tribute to the outstanding work of the outgoing Secretary-General, Javier Solana, and wished him success as High Representative for the European Union's common foreign and security policy, where he will make a vital contribution to strengthening transatlantic links.

- 30 -

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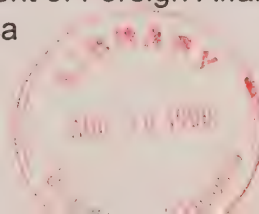
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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

August 11, 1999

(5:50 p.m. EDT)

No. 179

## AXWORTHY WELCOMES NEW CHIEF PROSECUTOR OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the appointment, by United Nations Security Council, of Carla Del Ponte of Switzerland, as the next Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

"Madame Del Ponte's extensive experience in the investigation and prosecution of major international crimes, such as drug and arms trafficking, espionage, and corruption, qualifies her fully to perform the functions of Chief Prosecutor," said Mr. Axworthy. "I am confident that Madame Del Ponte will bring the same level of commitment, perseverance and courage as Madame Louise Arbour."

Madame Del Ponte has experience as an investigating magistrate and Chief Federal Prosecutor and Attorney General of Switzerland in the investigation and prosecution of high-profile criminal cases. As Chief Prosecutor to the ICTY and ICTR she will be responsible for investigating and prosecuting persons accused of serious violations of international humanitarian law and crimes against humanity committed in the former Yugoslavia since 1991 and in Rwanda in 1994.

"Canada is grateful for the accomplishments of Madame Louise Arbour in her capacity as Chief Prosecutor. She has excelled in a very challenging and important task and has earned international respect for her efforts," said Mr. Axworthy. "Her work has been a credit to all Canadians."

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

August 16, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 180

## DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the following diplomatic appointments:

**Michael D. Bell** becomes Ambassador to the State of Israel.

**Terence W. Colfer** becomes Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**Jacques Crête** becomes High Commissioner to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana.

**Allan Culham** becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala, with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of El Salvador.

**Jean-Marc Duval** becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey, with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Georgia and the Republic of Turkmenistan.

**Lucie Edwards** becomes High Commissioner to the Republic of South Africa.

**Samuel Hanson** becomes Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Rodney Irwin** becomes Ambassador to the Russian Federation, with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Armenia.

**Philippe Kirsch** becomes Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden.

**Cécile Latour** becomes Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

**Normand Mailhot** becomes Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

**Donald P. McLennan** becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Poland.



**Marta Moszczenska** becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Hungary, with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Slovenia.

**Bruno Picard** becomes Ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

**David Preston** becomes High Commissioner to the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

**Neil D. Reeder** becomes High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam.

**Jacques Simard** becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Tunisia, with concurrent accreditation to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

**Mary Simon** becomes Ambassador to the Kingdom of Denmark. Ms. Simon will retain her responsibilities as Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs.

**Gerald R. Skinner** becomes Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan, with concurrent accreditation to the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan.

**Christopher Thomson** becomes Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates.

**James Wall** becomes High Commissioner to the Republic of Zimbabwe, with concurrent accreditation to the Republic of Botswana.

- 30 -

Biographical notes on the appointees are attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

**Michael D. Bell** (BA, Honours, University of Windsor, 1966; MA [Pol.Sci.], University of Windsor, 1967) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1967 and has served abroad in Kingston, Port of Spain, Tel Aviv and Rome. In 1987, he was named Canada's Ambassador to Jordan and from 1990 to 1992 was Ambassador to Israel. In 1994, Mr. Bell was appointed Ambassador to Egypt, a position in which he served until 1998. In Ottawa, he undertook a variety of assignments including Director, Middle East Relations Division, and Senior Advisor, Middle East Refugee Working Group. From 1992 to 1994, he was Director General, Central and Eastern Europe Bureau. Since 1998, Mr. Bell has been on assignment as a Fellow at the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University. He is married to Linda Bell and they have one daughter. Mr. Bell succeeds David Berger.

**Terence W. Colfer** (BA [Pol.Sci.], Royal Military College, 1965) joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1969 as a Trade Commissioner, after serving for several years in Canada and the Middle East as an officer in the Canadian Armed Forces. He has served abroad in Rome, Dallas, Sydney, Detroit, and in Boston as Deputy Consul General and Senior Trade Commissioner from 1990 to 1994. In Ottawa, he undertook a variety of assignments, including Director, Overseas Division, from 1987 to 1988; Director, United States Trade and Tourism Development Division, from 1988 to 1990; and from 1994 to 1996, Director, South Asia Division. Since 1996, Mr. Colfer has been Ambassador to Kuwait. He is married to Lynn Colfer and they have three sons. Mr. Colfer succeeds Michel de Salaberry.

**Jacques Crête** (BA, Université de Sherbrooke, 1966; BSc [Political Science], Université Laval, 1969; MA [Political Science], Université Laval, 1970) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1973 and has served abroad in Kinshasa, Athens, Buenos Aires, in Paris as Minister-Counsellor, and in Washington, at the Permanent Mission of Canada to the Organization of American States, as Minister-Counsellor. In Ottawa, Mr. Crête undertook assignments in the Defence Relations and Western Europe Relations Divisions and served twice in the Federal-Provincial Relations Division. Since 1996, he has been Director, West and Central Africa Division. He is married to Nicole Dumouchel and they have a son. Mr. Crête succeeds Alan Bowker.

**Allan Culham** (BA [Economics], Queen's University, 1973; MA [Economics], University of Western Ontario, 1974) joined the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in 1981, after a number of years engaged in development work in Botswana, and became a Foreign Service Officer in 1988. He has served abroad in Dar-es-Salaam and Jakarta. In Ottawa, he undertook several assignments at CIDA and served as Director, Corporate Information Division, from 1991 to 1992. At the Department of Foreign Affairs, he was Director, Energy and Nuclear Affairs Division, from 1992 to 1996. Since 1996, he has served as Minister-Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in



Mexico City. He is married to Mary Culham and they have two children. Mr. Culham succeeds Daniel Livermore.

**Jean-Marc Duval** (BComm, Université de Montréal, 1973; MSc [International Affairs], University of British Columbia, 1974) joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1974 as a Trade Commissioner and has served abroad in Athens, Bonn, Brussels, Dakar and Bern. He attended the Collège d'Europe in Bruges, Belgium, from 1977 to 1978. In Ottawa, Mr. Duval undertook assignments in the South and Southeast Asia Divisions and in the East Asia Trade Development Division. From 1993 to 1994, he served as Director of Personnel-Trade Commissioners and from 1994 to 1997 was Director of the Trade/Political Personnel Division. Since 1997, he has been Director General, European Union, North and West Europe Bureau. Mr. Duval is married to Louise Aubin and they have a daughter. Mr. Duval succeeds Michael Mace.

**Lucie Edwards** (BA, Honours), Trent University, 1976; MPA, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1984) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1976 and has served abroad in Tel Aviv, Pretoria and in Nairobi, where she was High Commissioner to Kenya from 1993 to 1995. In Ottawa, Ms. Edwards undertook assignments in the Commercial Policy, Economic Relations with Developing Countries, Middle East, and Resource Management Divisions. From 1989 to 1992, Ms. Edwards was Chairperson of the Southern Africa Task Force, and from 1992 to 1993, she served as Director of the Middle East Relations Division. From 1995 to 1996, she was Director General of the Global Issues Bureau. Since 1996, Ms. Edwards has been Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services. She is married to Thomas Roach. Ms. Edwards replaces James Bartleman.

**Samuel Hanson** (BA, University of Calgary, 1973; MA, University of Birmingham, 1974) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1974 and has served abroad in Brussels (NATO), Belgrade, Dar-es-Salaam, Windhoek (Namibia), where he was Acting High Commissioner in 1990, and Zagreb, where he served as Special Representative from 1990 to 1992. In Ottawa, he undertook assignments in the Intelligence Analysis, Intelligence Services, and United Nations Divisions. In 1998, he became Deputy Director, Resources Management Division, and recently he joined the Kosovo Task Force. Mr. Hanson replaces Serge Marcoux.

**Rodney Irwin** (BA, Honours, University of British Columbia, 1969; MA [English], University of British Columbia, 1971) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1971 and has served abroad in New Delhi, Moscow, and in Port of Spain, where he was High Commissioner from 1988 to 1990. In 1992, he was named Ambassador to Yugoslavia but, due to the war with Croatia, served instead as Ambassador to Albania, Bulgaria, Slovenia and Croatia, with residence in Vienna. From 1993 to 1996, he was Ambassador to Hungary while also retaining his Balkan accreditations. In Ottawa, Mr. Irwin undertook numerous assignments, including Director, Political/Economic

Personnel Division, and from 1985 to 1988, Director General, Corporate Management Bureau. From 1996 to 1998, he served as the Department's Inspector General. Since 1998, he has been Director General, Human Resources Development Bureau. He is married to Penelope Irwin and they have three children. Mr. Irwin succeeds Anne Leahy.

**Philippe Kirsch** (BA [Classics], Stanislas College, 1966; LLB, Université de Montréal, 1969; Admitted to the Quebec Bar, 1970; LLM, Université de Montréal, 1972; Academy of International Law – The Hague, 1979) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1972. He has served abroad in Lima and twice at the United Nations in New York, first from 1977 to 1981, and again as Deputy Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the United Nations from 1988 to 1992. In Ottawa, Mr. Kirsch has undertaken assignments principally in the Legal Bureau. From 1983 to 1988, he was Director, Legal Operations Division, serving at the same time as Ambassador and Agent for Canada in the *La Bretagne* arbitration. From 1992 to 1994, he was Director General, Legal Affairs Bureau, and since 1994, he has been Legal Advisor, also serving twice as Ambassador and Agent for Canada before the International Court of Justice in the Fisheries Jurisdiction Case (*Spain v. Canada*) and in the Legality of Use of Force Case (*Yugoslavia v. Canada*). He has two daughters. He will be accompanied to post by Sharon Williams. Mr. Kirsch succeeds William Clarke.

**Cécile Latour** (BA [Economics], University of Ottawa) joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1977 as a Commercial Officer and has served in several positions, including, from 1981 to 1984, in the Southeast Asia Trade Development Division. After becoming a Foreign Service Officer in 1985, Ms. Latour served abroad in Beijing and in London. In Ottawa, Ms. Latour undertook assignments in the East Asia Trade Development Division and in the Personnel (Trade Commissioner Service) Division. Since 1996, Ms. Latour has been Director, South Asia Division. She is married to David Horley. Ms. Latour succeeds Marius Grinius.

**Normand Mailhot** (BA, Loyola College, 1964; MA, University of Toronto, 1967) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1967 and has served abroad in Hong Kong, Beijing, Bogota, Seoul and Islamabad. From 1988 to 1992, he was Consul General in Shanghai and in 1992 he returned to Beijing as Minister-Counsellor. From 1995 to 1997, he was Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner in New York. In Ottawa, Mr. Mailhot undertook assignments in the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Asia Division; and in the Cabinet Liaison Division and the Pacific Relations Division at External Affairs. Since 1997, he has been Director, Communications Strategies and Planning Division. In addition to his headquarters experience, he served with the Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat of the Province of Ontario from 1970 to 1973. He is married to Candace Anne Mailhot. Mr. Mailhot succeeds Gordon Longmuir.



**Donald P. McLennan** (BSc. [Physics], Université Laval, 1968; MBA, University of Alberta, 1970) joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce as a Trade Commissioner in 1970 and has served abroad in Hong Kong, Belgrade, Lagos, Berne, London, and in Riyadh as Minister-Counsellor (Commercial). In 1993, he was named Ambassador to Iran. In Ottawa, Mr. McLennan was seconded to the International Programs Division of the Department of Finance from 1979 to 1982. Since 1996, he has been Director, Policy and Strategic Planning Division, at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. He is married to Judy McLennan and they have three children. Mr. McLennan replaces Serge April.

**Marta Moszczenska** (BA, Carleton University) joined the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1977 as a Commercial Officer. In 1985, she became a Foreign Service Officer and later served abroad in Milan and in Boston as a Trade Commissioner. In Ottawa, following several assignments in trade policy and with the Program for Export Market Development, she served as Departmental Assistant to the Minister for International Trade and Deputy Director, Trade Development Liaison and Special Projects Division. From 1994 to 1996, she was Director, Rotational Administrative Personnel Division. Since 1996, Ms. Moszczenska has served as Counsellor (Commercial) and Consul at the Canadian Embassy in Jakarta. Ms. Moszczenska succeeds Susan Cartwright.

**Bruno Picard** (BSc, Université Laval, 1977) joined the Canadian Foreign Service in 1977 as a Trade Commissioner and has served abroad in Cairo, Guatemala City, Rabat and Brussels. In Ottawa, he undertook assignments in the Caribbean and Central America Trade Development Division, as Senior Departmental Assistant to the Secretary of State for International Trade, and in the Cabinet Liaison and Western Europe Divisions. He was also Director of Communications in the Office of the Minister for International Trade. Since 1996, he has served as Director of the Centre for Professional Development of the Canadian Foreign Service Institute. He is married to Nicole Proulx and they have three children. Mr. Picard becomes Canada's first resident Ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

**David Preston** (BA [Economics], Queen's University, 1967; MA [Economic Development], University of British Columbia, 1970) joined Statistics Canada in 1970 and entered the Department of External Affairs in 1972. He has served abroad in Jakarta, Accra and Canberra. In Ottawa, he undertook assignments in the Southeast Asia Aid and Development Division, the Eastern and Southern Africa Division, the Pacific Affairs Division, and as Deputy Director in the Japan Relations and the Political/Economic Personnel Divisions. From 1991 to 1995, he served as Director, Economic Relations with Developing Countries Division. Since 1995, he has been Director, United States Transboundary Division. He is married to Catherine Berry and they have two children. Mr. Preston succeeds Nicholas Etheridge.



**Neil D. Reeder** (BA, University of Saskatchewan, 1979; BJ, Carleton University, 1981) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1981 and has served abroad in Rabat, Washington and Hong Kong. In Ottawa, he undertook assignments in the East Asia, the Francophone Africa, and the Caribbean and Central America Relations Divisions. He also served as Public Liaison Officer in the Arms Control and Disarmament Division. From 1995 to 1997, he was a foreign policy analyst at the Privy Council Office. Since 1997, Mr. Reeder has been Director, Media Relations Office. He is married to Irene Hansen-Reeder and they have three children. Mr. Reeder replaces Gardiner Wilson.

**Jacques Simard** (BA, Université de Montréal, 1961; MA [History], University of Ottawa, 1967; Diploma, École nationale d'Administration, 1972) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1967 and has served abroad in Kuala Lumpur, Beirut and Geneva (Conference on Disarmament). In 1983, he was appointed Ambassador to Romania, and from 1990 to 1994, served as Ambassador to Egypt. In Ottawa, he undertook assignments in the Africa and Middle East Division and in the Energy, Transportation and Communications Division, and from 1980 to 1983, he was Director, Analysis and Information Division. Since 1994, Mr. Simard has been Director General, Security and Intelligence Bureau. In addition to his headquarters experience, Mr. Simard served from 1988 to 1990 as Vice-Commandant of the National Defence College in Kingston. He is married to Lise Simard and they have two sons. Mr. Simard replaces Arsène Després.

**Mary Simon** (Honorary Doctorate in Law, McGill University, 1992; Honorary Doctorate in Law, Queen's University, 1994) was named Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs in 1994, becoming the first Inuk to hold ambassadorial rank. In 1969, Ms. Simon joined the CBC Northern Service and worked as a producer and announcer until 1974. She held a number of positions with the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, serving as a Board Member from 1991 to 1994. In 1978, she was elected Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Northern Quebec Inuit Association. From 1979 to 1982, she was First Vice-President of Makivik Corporation, with responsibility for implementation of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, and from 1982 to 1985, she was President of the Makivik Corporation. Ms. Simon was an Executive Council member of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) from 1980 to 1986 and served as its President from 1986 to 1992. From 1992 to 1994, she was Special Envoy of the ICC. In 1994, she was named Commissioner of the Nunavut Implementation Commission, and in 1997, she was appointed as a member of the Joint Public Advisory Committee of the Commission on Environmental Cooperation of NAFTA and served as its Chair in 1998. Ms. Simon has also been Chancellor of Trent University since 1995. Ms. Simon has been honoured for her work through appointment to the Order of Canada in 1992, and in 1996 she received the National Aboriginal Achievement Award. She has three children and is married to Whit Fraser. Ms. Simon succeeds Brian Baker. While taking up her assignment as Ambassador to Denmark, Ms. Simon will retain her responsibilities as Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs.

**Gerald R. Skinner** (BA, University of British Columbia; MA, Carleton University; post-graduate studies, Moscow State University) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1966 and has served abroad in Cairo, Warsaw, Geneva, Bonn, Moscow as Minister-Counsellor, and again in Cairo as Minister-Counsellor. In Ottawa, Mr. Skinner undertook assignments in the Africa and Middle East Divisions, as well as in the East European Division and the Arms Control and Disarmament Division. He also served, from 1978 to 1980, as Director of the South Asia Division and, from 1984 to 1986, as Director of the Emergency Preparedness Division. In addition to his headquarters experience, Mr. Skinner attended the National Defence College, in Kingston, from 1976 to 1977. Since 1995, he has been Minister-Counsellor in Riga, Latvia. He is married to Ilham Moyine al-Arab and they have a son and a daughter. Mr. Skinner replaces Richard Mann.

**Christopher Thomson** (BA [Economics and Political Science], University of British Columbia, 1964) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1971, after seven years as a stockbroker in Vancouver. He served abroad in Beirut, Hong Kong, and at the United Nations in New York and in Geneva. From 1993 to 1997, Mr. Thomson was Minister-Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Representative to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris. In Ottawa, Mr. Thomson served in the Privy Council Office, from 1989 to 1991, and as Senior Departmental Assistant to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, from 1992 to 1993. Since 1997, he has been Director, Trade Policy Planning Division. He is married to Katrina Thomson (née Hicks) and has four daughters. Mr. Thomson replaces Stuart McDowall.

**James Wall** (BA, Honours, Carleton University, 1968; LLB, University of Ottawa, 1973) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1976 and has served abroad in New Delhi, Jakarta and Nairobi. In Ottawa, he undertook several assignments in the Legal Bureau, serving as the Director, Economic and Trade Law Division, from 1990 to 1992. From 1996 to 1997, he was Director, Information and Technology Trade Policy Division. In 1997, he became Director General, International and Economic Issues Directorate at Environment Canada, a position he held until earlier this year. He is married to Heather Wall and they have a son. Mr. Wall succeeds Anne Charles.



# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

August 17, 1999

(5:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 181

## CANADA CONDEMNS OUTBREAK OF TERRORISM IN ALGERIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today vigorously condemned the increasing number of terrorist attacks in recent days against the civilian population in Algeria during the run-up to the referendum on national reconciliation to be held on September 16, 1999.

"Canada opposes all forms of terrorism and supports Algerians in their efforts to end the terrible conflict their country has been suffering for some years," the Minister said.

"The referendum, which has received the support of the Parliament and is aimed at reconciliation of the Algerian people, is an important initiative of the Algerian president," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada hopes that President Bouteflika's efforts will help end the climate of terrorism that is rampant in Algeria and promote the return of peace."

The aim of the referendum on national reconciliation is to grant partial amnesty to radical Muslims in an effort to restore peace in Algeria. The initiative of the Algerian president was rejected by the Groupes islamiques armés (GIA) [armed Islamic groups] and the Groupe salafite pour la prédication et le combat (GSPC) [Salafiyya group for preaching and combat]. These armed groups reasserted their determination to continue their terrorist activities. One hundred people, including 27 soldiers, have been killed by terrorists in Algeria since the beginning of August.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

August 18, 1999

(9:05 a.m. EDT)

No. 182

## GOVERNMENT OF CANADA WELCOMES INTERIM REPORT FROM INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION ON BULK WATER REMOVAL FROM THE GREAT LAKES

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Environment Minister David Anderson were pleased today to receive the International Joint Commission (IJC)'s interim report *Protection of the Waters of the Great Lakes*. The ministers noted that the report is generally supportive of the Government of Canada's initiative to prohibit bulk water removals from Canadian watersheds.

"The interim report supports the federal approach to protecting all of our waters against removals," said Minister Axworthy. "The report concludes that the Great Lakes have no surplus water. In the fall, we will introduce amendments to the *International Boundary Waters Treaty Act*, which will enable us to prohibit removals of water from boundary waters such as the Great Lakes."

"We fully intend to review this study in detail and respond formally to the Commission," said Minister Axworthy. "I do have concerns with one recommendation regarding removals of water from the Great Lakes under some circumstances. The conditions outlined in that recommendation may be too permissive and therefore not acceptable."

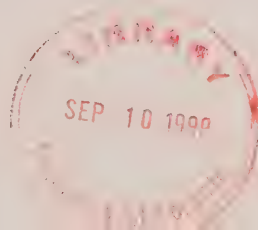
"Canadians expect all governments to work together to protect our watersheds and ensure the preservation of fresh water supplies for future generations," said Minister Anderson. "Because the provinces and territories are the owners and stewards of water resources within their borders, I am looking to them to work with the Government of Canada in developing a Canada-wide accord that addresses the concerns of Canadians. I have written to my provincial and territorial colleagues urging their co-operation, and I look forward to putting an accord in place with them this fall."

The IJC interim report is the first component of a three-part federal strategy to prohibit removals of water, including removals for export, announced on February 10, 1999. A final report will be issued by the IJC in February 2000. The other two components of the strategy are the amendments to the *International Boundary Waters Treaty Act*, and developing a Canada-wide accord with provincial and territorial governments to prohibit



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removals, including removals for export, from Canadian watersheds. Discussions are ongoing with the provinces and territories.

"We encourage all provinces to review this interim report, since it provides important information beyond the perspective of the Great Lakes and will be of interest to all jurisdictions," said Minister Anderson. "I am pleased this interim report supports our strategy and underscores the importance of preventing bulk water removals."

For additional information, please visit Environment Canada's Web site on the Green Lane: [http://www.ec.gc.ca/press/bulk\\_water\\_b\\_e.htm](http://www.ec.gc.ca/press/bulk_water_b_e.htm)

The IJC Web site is: <http://www.ijc.org>

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Web site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



# News Release

August 19, 1999

(2:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 183

## CANADA TO HOST MEETING OF HEMISPHERIC ANTI-DRUG EXPERTS IN OTTAWA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Solicitor General Lawrence MacAulay today announced that Canada will host a meeting of a working group of anti-drug experts from the 34 countries of the Organization of American States (OAS) August 31 to September 2, 1999.

The intergovernmental working group will finalize the development of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), which is an unprecedented initiative to establish a common standard for the mutual evaluation of national and hemispheric efforts to deal with all aspects of the drug problem and related crimes.

This will be the sixth meeting of the working group, which was created by heads of states and government leaders at the Second Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile, in 1998.

"The fight against the threat to human security that is posed by the trafficking in and the abuse of illicit drugs requires a co-ordinated multilateral approach," said Mr. Axworthy. "The MEM will result in more information sharing, better assessment, and a more integrated approach to tackling the problem throughout the Hemisphere."

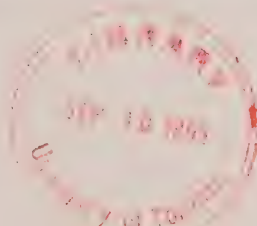
"I am proud that Canada has been leading the process to develop the MEM," said Mr. MacAulay. "We believe that this meeting has the potential to achieve a breakthrough in hemispheric anti-drug efforts."

For the past year, Canada's Deputy Solicitor General, Jean T. Fournier, has been leading the MEM working group in co-operation with the OAS's Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD). Under Mr. Fournier's chairmanship the goal of the Ottawa meeting is to complete the MEM, which will then be formally adopted by CICAD at its October meeting in Uruguay. This will be followed by a first round of evaluations that will take place in the year 2000. The final MEM will be presented to leaders at the Third Summit of the Americas, which Canada will host in Quebec City in 2001.



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The MEM will consist of a series of in-depth questions, or indicators, for national governments on their anti-drug policies. The indicators examine the five main categories described in the 1996 Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere: national plans and strategies; prevention and treatment; reduction of drug production; law enforcement measures; and the cost of the drug problem.

All 34 member countries will provide data in response to a standard questionnaire. A governmental expert group will use the results to prepare evaluations on a country-by-country basis. The reports will indicate results achieved and best practices that could be applied elsewhere, as well as identify where improvements can be made. They will also identify obstacles faced by countries and areas where assistance could be offered.

The working group meeting will take place at the Government Conference Centre in Ottawa. For more information, media are invited to visit the MEM site on the Solicitor General Canada Internet site at <http://www.sgc.gc.ca>

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

It can also be found on the Solicitor General Canada Internet site:  
<http://www.sgc.gc.ca>



# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

August 20, 1999

(1:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 184

## CHAN TO LEAD TRADE DELEGATION TO THE PHILIPPINES

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that he will lead a business delegation to the Philippines, August 23 to 27. Twenty-eight companies have registered for the formal program, and another 20 Canadian companies with offices in the Philippines are expected to join in some of the events.

"This is an excellent time for Canadian business to explore opportunities in the Philippine market, which is showing signs of economic improvement and renewed growth potential," said Mr. Chan. "Our countries' bilateral trade surpassed \$1 billion in both 1997 and 1998. During this visit, I expect that we will enhance this trade relationship, particularly in areas such as environmental and engineering services and technologies, high technology and telecommunications, agri-food and transportation."

Mr. Chan's visit will begin in Manila, where he will introduce the business delegates to key business leaders as well as to Jose T. Pardo, Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry. Mr. Chan will call on Vicente Rivera, Jr., Secretary of the Department of Transport and Communications, Orly Mercado, Secretary of Defence, and Domingo L. Siazon, Jr., Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs. The Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) will be the first Canadian minister to meet the newly appointed president of the Asian Development Bank, Tadeo Chino.

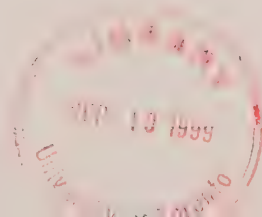
On August 24, the Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) and the Canadian delegation will travel to Davao City, the capital of the Mindanao region, where they will meet senior business and government officials including the mayor of Davao City. Mr. Chan will address the Davao City Chamber of Commerce.

The following day, the group will proceed to Cebu City, a major centre in the central Philippines. There, Mr. Chan will introduce the business delegates to community and business leaders as well as provincial and municipal officials, including Cebu Provincial Governor Pablo Garcia. The delegation will attend a joint general membership meeting of Cebu business organizations, where Mr. Chan will be the featured speaker. Mr. Chan will also mark the appointment of an honorary consul for Canada in Cebu.



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"I am pleased to be in the Philippines this year as our two countries mark the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations. It is an interesting time to reflect on the many changes that our countries have undergone over the decades," said Mr. Chan. "During this visit, Canadian business will showcase the goods and services they can offer to the Philippines as that country continues its rapid progress toward development and renewed prosperity."

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A list of companies and organizations participating in the business delegation is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Naseem Nuraney  
Office of the Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific)  
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Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874

**Canadian Companies and Organizations Participating in the  
Trade Mission to the Philippines  
August 23 to 27**

("\*\*" denotes a Canadian company or organization participating from its Philippine or Southeast Asian representative office.)

**Agri-food**

AgHitech Corporation \*

Agriteam Canada \*

HDP Group (Asian ImEx Enterprises Inc.), Ottawa, Ontario

Park Tak International Corporation, Markham, Ontario

**Chemicals**

IOGEN Corporation, Ottawa, Ontario

**Councils**

CanAsian Businesswomen's Network \*

Philippines-Canada Business Council, Ottawa, Ontario

Philippines-Canada Trade Council, Vancouver, British Columbia

The Philippines Chamber of Commerce, Toronto, Ontario

**Defence**

Int. Silvatech Industries Inc., Abbotsford, British Columbia

**Engineering, environmental services and construction**

ARMTEC Construction Products, Guelph, Ontario

BD & Lui Design Group Inc., Richmond, British Columbia

Golder Associates \*

Sea Form Systems Asia, Inc.\*

SNC Lavalin International \* (and transportation, power)

Wardrop Engineering Inc. \*

**Financial services**

Clarica, Ottawa, Ontario

Liberty Capital Partners, Toronto, Ontario

Manufacturers Life Insurance Co. (Manulife Financial) \*

NetBank Group, Richmond Hill, Ontario

**Machinery and equipment**

Transco Plastic Industries, Montreal, Quebec

**Power**

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited \*

**Professional services**

Ladner Downs Barristers and Solicitors, Vancouver, British Columbia

Stratexport Asia \*

WLG et al. Procurement Monitoring, Ltd., Vancouver, British Columbia

**High technology and telecommunications**

Global Enterprises, Calgary, Alberta (and agri-food)

Harris Corporation, Farinon Division \*

Intermap Technologies Corp., Nepean, Ontario

SR Telecom \*

**Transportation**

Canadian Airlines \*



# News Release

August 20, 1999

(5:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 185

## **AXWORTHY, MINNA, SIERRA LEONE FOREIGN MINISTER TO DISCUSS STEPS TO STRENGTHEN PEACE**

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna will each meet with Sierra Leone's Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation Dr. Sama Banya on August 23. They will discuss the political situation in Sierra Leone, the effects of the war on children, and measures to promote national reconstruction and reconciliation in Sierra Leone. These meetings are part of Dr. Banya's visit to Canada, which began in Edmonton on August 15.

"Canada continues to support the process of national reconciliation aimed at securing peace and stability for the people of Sierra Leone," said Mr. Axworthy. "Minister Banya's visit to Canada provides the opportunity to discuss the challenges of consolidating peace and to address the major problem of protecting civilians in conflict, particularly child soldiers."

In Edmonton, Minister Banya attended the First International Congress on Telehealth and Multimedia Technologies, where he met with health service providers and educators, and representatives of telehealth and multimedia technology industries that develop prosthetics.

"Canadians are deeply concerned about the plight of the people in Sierra Leone," said Minister Minna. "We will continue to support the people of Sierra Leone in their efforts to rebuild their society."

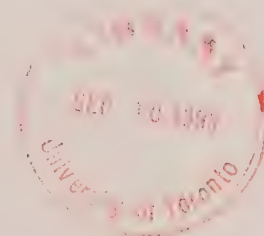
During his visit to Ottawa, Dr. Banya will also meet with David Pratt, Member of Parliament for Nepean-Carleton and special envoy for Sierra Leone, to further discuss the lasting effects of war on children and measures aimed at reintegrating the people of Sierra Leone. In March 1999, Mr. Pratt travelled to Sierra Leone to assess the prospects for the restoration of peace and stability. He will be a keynote speaker at a conference on the war in Sierra Leone in Washington, D.C., on September 8 and 9.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

August 24, 1999

(10:45 a.m. EDT)

No. 186

## PETTIGREW TO MAKE FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO MEXICO

International Trade Minister Pierre S. Pettigrew today announced that he will travel to Mexico August 25 and 26, his first international official visit.

During his visit, Minister Pettigrew will inaugurate "Terre Sauvage: Canadian Landscape Painting and the Group of Seven," a major exhibition of 75 paintings and sketches by Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven, opening at Mexico's Museo de Arte Moderno. The Minister will also address the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Mexico and meet with members of the Mexican Council of Foreign Trade.

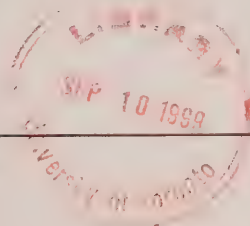
"It is logical and appropriate that my first official visit as Minister for International Trade be Mexico," said Minister Pettigrew. "The North American Free Trade Agreement established a solid foundation for growing trade and investment. The stronger economic relationship as a result of the NAFTA has also encouraged cultural exchanges to grow and flourish, allowing us get to know one another better through our artists, writers, academics and travellers."

Later this year, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and the National Gallery of Canada will host a show of modern Mexican art, including the works of Mexico's two most famous 20<sup>th</sup> century painters, Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo.

Minister Pettigrew will also meet Doctor Herminio Blanco, Secretary of Commerce and Industrial Development, and Rosario Green, Secretary of Foreign Relations. Mr. Pettigrew will review progress on the commitments of the Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Commission, the accomplishments and future prospects of the NAFTA and plans for the November Ministerial meeting in Toronto regarding the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

Mexico is Canada's largest trading partner in Latin America. Based on both country's import data, two-way trade in 1998 was valued at \$11 billion, up nearly 14 percent from a year earlier.

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

August 24, 1999

(5:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 187

## **AXWORTHY TO ATTEND NORDIC-BALTIC MEETING AND CANADA-EU MEETING DURING VISITS TO GREENLAND, ICELAND, FINLAND AND LATVIA**

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced visits to Greenland, Iceland, Finland and Latvia from August 27 to September 2, 1999, to coincide with his participation in a Nordic-Baltic foreign ministers' meeting and in a Canada-European Union (EU) ministerial meeting.

The Nordic-Baltic meeting, which includes the participation of the Foreign Affairs ministers of the five Nordic Council members (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) and the three Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania), will take place August 30 in Egilsstaðir, Iceland. The Canada-EU meeting will take place September 2 in Helsinki, Finland, the country currently holding the EU presidency.

"Canada has been reviewing its northern foreign policy with the aim of improving co-operation between northern nations," said Mr. Axworthy. "These visits and meetings present timely opportunities to pursue that agenda and ensure we work together on the distinctive issues of the North."

In Nuuk on August 28, Minister Axworthy will meet with representatives of the Greenland Home Rule government, including Premier Motzfeldt, to discuss northern policy issues and examine ways to expand the cultural and economic ties between Canada and Greenland.

In Egilsstaðir on August 30, Mr. Axworthy will first take part in a ministerial meeting with his Nordic and Baltic counterparts where he will make a presentation on human security — an area of common concern and one of Canada's main priorities — and promote Canada's international agenda. The Minister will then proceed to Reykjavik on August 31 to meet with Prime Minister Oddsson and with Foreign Affairs Minister Asgrimsson and discuss a number of global and bilateral issues, such as air relations, joint northern issues, Canada-Iceland millennium celebrations, the Arctic Council, the current negotiation of a free trade agreement between Canada and the European Free Trade Association and Iceland's agenda as chair of the Nordic Council and of the Council of Europe.



On the first day of his Helsinki visit, September 1, Minister Axworthy will meet with President Ahtisaari, Prime Minister Lipponen and Foreign Affairs Minister Halonen to discuss northern policy co-operation, respective approaches to human security and conflict prevention, measures to counter the proliferation of small arms and light weapons and the ban on anti-personnel landmines. He will also sign an amendment to the Canada-Finland Air Agreement and address the Paasikivi Society.

On September 2, Minister Axworthy will take part in a Canada-EU meeting with Finnish Foreign Affairs Minister Halonen, who currently presides over the Council of Ministers of the EU, and Sir Leon Brittan, acting Vice-President of the European Commission. Discussions will focus on co-operation on global human security issues and peace and stability in Southeast Europe. Other issues to be raised include: the upcoming EU-Canada seminar on circumpolar co-operation, scheduled in October; Europe's efforts to develop a common European security and defence policy; and the impact of EU agricultural policies on Canadian farmers.

Minister Axworthy will then proceed to Riga, capital of Latvia, where he will meet with President Vike-Freiberga and Foreign Affairs Minister Berzins to reaffirm Canada's long-time commitment to Latvia's independence and security, and to promote the strengthening of Canada-Latvia trade links.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

August 25, 1999

(5:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 188

## DUHAMEL RECOVERING WELL AFTER SURGERY

The Honourable Ronald J. Duhamel, Secretary of State (Western Economic Diversification) (Francophonie), underwent surgery to remove a tumour on his left kidney last Monday at the St. Boniface hospital in Manitoba.

The surgery was successful and Mr. Duhamel is recovering well.

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# News Release

August 26, 1999

(6:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 189

## CANADA TO SEND OBSERVERS TO EAST TIMOR POPULAR CONSULTATION

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that a Canadian delegation will travel to Dili, the capital of East Timor, to observe the August 30 ballot on the future of the territory. The delegation will be led by Mr. Chan and includes Raymonde Falco, MP (Laval West).

The popular consultation will determine whether East Timorese accept or reject a proposal for special autonomy status within Indonesia. Its rejection will lead to East Timor's independence.

"I am disturbed by the recent escalation of violence in East Timor and ask the Indonesian authorities to meet their obligation to maintain security there," said Mr. Axworthy. "This is a historic occasion for the East Timorese people. The ballot is the result of much negotiation and compromise, and it is our sincere wish that all parties will treat the process, and its results, in the spirit of cooperation, tolerance and goodwill."

Minister Axworthy also stated that Canada is heartened by reports that the Indonesian government has said that it will release East Timorese rebel leader Xanana Gusmao in September. Canada has strongly lobbied the Indonesian government on Mr. Gusmao's behalf.

"Canada has long been the third-largest donor to East Timor and, including our contribution to the United Nations Mission to East Timor (UNAMET), is providing over \$4 million in assistance this year," said Minister Minna. "I wish to assure the people of the region that Canada will continue to support the development path they choose to follow after the August 30 consultation."

"Canada believes that the presence of international and local observers will assist in creating an environment necessary for the conduct of a free and fair ballot," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan. "UNAMET has done an excellent job in preparing for the vote, but we are concerned that some groups have questioned its



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neutrality." Mr. Chan noted that there are continued credible reports that Indonesian security officials are assisting pro-autonomy militias and that this is in direct contravention of the May agreement signed by the Indonesian and Portuguese governments at the United Nations. "Threats to reject the results of the consultation and the resort to violence are cause for grave concern," he said.

Canada supported Security Council Resolution 1257, of August 3, which extended UNAMET's mandate to November 30 and augmented its civilian police and military liaison components. These measures, and the recent agreement among East Timorese to form a Joint Consultative Commission, will help to ensure a peaceful and effective post-ballot transition, no matter what the outcome.

- 30 -

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site:

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

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# News Release

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August 27, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EDT)

## ERRATUM

Re: News Release 189

In news release number 189, dated August 26, 1999, **CANADA TO SEND OBSERVERS TO EAST TIMOR POPULAR CONSULTATION**, the following section should have read as:

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that a Canadian delegation will travel to Dili, the capital of East Timor, to observe the August 30 ballot on the future of the territory. The delegation will be led by Mr. Chan and includes Raymonde **Folco**, MP (Laval West).



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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

August 26, 1999

(6:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 190

## CANADA WELCOMES AND SUPPORTS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed a United Nations Security Council resolution to promote the protection of war-affected children. The resolution was co-sponsored by Canada, and was passed unanimously after an open Security Council debate.

"I am very encouraged by the passage of this human security resolution dealing with war affected children. Canada is an active supporter of children's rights, among which is the right to be protected from the effects of war," said Mr. Axworthy. "This resolution is an important step in strengthening that right."

Studies conducted by the United Nations estimate that the impact of armed conflict on children has increased dramatically over the last decade. Millions have been killed, disabled, abducted, detained and raped as part of hostilities. It is estimated that 300 000 children, some as young as seven years old, are serving in government and opposition forces, and are being exploited in a variety of ways.

"Canada is actively working through the Security Council and the United Nations system to protect children affected by conflict," said the Minister. "We are particularly concerned about both the impact that armed conflict has on children, and the long-term consequences that such trauma has for creating lasting peace and security."

Child soldiers and the protection of children in armed conflict are among priority issues for the Canadian government. Canada has actively supported working groups established by the UN Commission on Human Rights to draft two optional protocols to the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* on:

- the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; and
- children in situations of armed conflict.

Minister Axworthy also noted that we are keenly awaiting a report from the UN Secretary General on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. In February, the Minister chaired an open debate of the Security Council on this subject, after which the



Secretary General was asked to write a report giving recommendations on the role of the UN on combatting the problem of civilians in armed conflict.

Canada, the UN Security Council and the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, Mr. Olara Otunnu, are working together to mainstream the issue within the UN system.

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# News Release

[www.dfaitymaeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfaitymaeci.gc.ca)

August 30, 1999

(2:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 191

## B.C. STUMPAGE FEES: CANADA-U.S. SETTLEMENT

International Trade Minister Pierre S. Pettigrew today announced that he is pleased with the settlement Canada has reached with the United States in the ongoing softwood lumber dispute over British Columbia's stumpage fee reductions.

In July 1998, the United States requested arbitration over reduced stumpage fees announced by the B.C. government, claiming that the reduced fees breached the Softwood Lumber Agreement between Canada and the United States. The dispute was referred to a panel for arbitration, but in the interim, the two countries have negotiated a solution.

"I am pleased that we have reached an agreement, the resolution of which will allow B.C. lumber producers to continue to perform strongly," said Minister Pettigrew. "Softwood lumber is an important industry that employs thousands of Canadians, and resolution of this issue will let the industry do business without the unnecessary distraction of trade complaints."

The Softwood Lumber Agreement does not restrict provincial forest management practices, particularly the right of provinces to set stumpage fees as they choose. The settlement of the B.C. lumber dispute in no way compromises this position. The original Agreement is a three-tier quota system that allows Canadian producers to ship a fixed amount of lumber with no fees. The majority of lumber is shipped without fees. Beyond the first no-fee limit, a lower fee base of US\$52.93 applies, and beyond a second threshold volume, an upper fee base of US\$105.86 applies.

The new deal applies only to B.C. lumber exports. For B.C. exporters, a small amount of lumber will be repriced from the lower rate to the upper rate. Upper rate lumber exports will be limited to 110 million board feet, and a third, extra fee level of US\$146.25 has been added, with no limitation on volume. At current volumes, these changes will affect about 1 percent of B.C.'s total lumber exports to the United States.

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A backgrounder is attached.

## **Backgrounder**

### **Softwood Lumber Agreement**

Softwood lumber has been an area of trade friction between Canada and the United States for over 15 years. After lengthy negotiations, as well as extensive consultations with stakeholders, Canada and the United States finalized an agreement on softwood lumber covering the five-year period from April 1, 1996, to March 31, 2001. The Agreement applies to certain lumber products originating from the four provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec, the dominant Canadian exporters of lumber to the U.S. market.

### **B.C. Stumpage Dispute**

On January 26, 1998, the B.C. Minister of Forests and the Deputy Minister to the Premier announced that the B.C. government would be reducing timber stumpage rates to offset an unexpected cost burden on B.C. companies. On May 28, Premier Clark announced stumpage reductions, effective June 1.

On June 22, the United States requested consultations under the Softwood Lumber Agreement over the fee reductions, claiming that this change violated the Agreement. On July 28, the United States requested arbitration under the Agreement's dispute settlement mechanism, and in December 1998 a three-person panel was confirmed. In an address to the panel, Canada maintained that the revised B.C. stumpage regime was fully consistent with our obligations under the Agreement.

### **Chronology of the B.C. Stumpage Dispute**

May 28, 1998	B.C. Premier Clark announces stumpage reductions.
June 1, 1998	Stumpage reductions take effect.
June 22, 1998	The United States requests consultations under the Softwood Lumber Agreement.
July 28, 1998	The United States requests arbitration under the Softwood Lumber Agreement.
December 1998	Panel participants are confirmed.
March 18, 1999	An oral hearing is held in Ottawa.
July 8, 1999	The panel proposes August 27 for release of its decision.
August 20, 1999	A tentative deal is reached with the United States.
August 26, 1999	The settlement is signed, and panel proceedings terminate.

## The Settlement

In order to expedite this issue, and at the request of the B.C. government and industry, the federal government explored a negotiated solution with the United States and was able to reach an agreement. The negotiated solution maintains export allocation levels and does not affect any province other than British Columbia. The Exchange of Letters specifically states that the settlement is without prejudice to the positions of the parties, that is, it does not limit provincial forestry management practices in any way. It is seen by the B.C. government and industry as preferable to the uncertainties of the arbitration panel decision.

Key provisions of the negotiated settlement include the following:

- The fee-free established base (EB) allocations under the Softwood Lumber Agreement will not change.
- A portion of the lower fee base (LFB) allocations will be repriced at the upper fee base (UFB) price.
- An extra fee level of US\$146.25 will be established for UFB exports by B.C. companies that are in excess of 110 million board feet.

<b>Original Softwood Lumber Agreement</b> (1999-2000 fees per thousand board feet)	<b>B.C. Settlement</b> (1999-2000 fees per thousand board feet)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EB – 14.7 billion board feet: no fee</li> <li>• LFB – 650 million board feet (of which 360 million is allocated to B.C.-based companies): US\$52.93</li> <li>• UFB: US\$105.86</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EB: no change</li> <li>• LFB – 270 million board feet (of the 360 million): US\$52.93</li> <li>• UFB – 110 million board feet: US\$105.86</li> <li>• Unlimited: US\$146.25</li> </ul>



# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

August 30, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 192

## KILGOUR TO ATTEND INAUGURATION OF PANAMANIAN PRESIDENT MIREYA MOSCOSO

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour will travel to Panama City to attend the inauguration of Panama's new President, Mireya Moscoso, on September 1, 1999.

"This event sets the stage for deeper bilateral relations with Panama and future collaboration in key areas, such as human rights, environmental protection and the promotion of stability and prosperity throughout Latin America," said Mr. Kilgour.

Ms. Moscoso was elected on May 1, 1999 for a five-year term. It is the first time that a woman has been elected to Panama's presidency.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

August 30, 1999

(7:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 193

## CANADA URGES CALM IN EAST TIMOR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today commented on the popular consultation in East Timor, which will determine whether East Timorese accept or reject a proposal for special autonomy status within Indonesia.

Initial reports suggest that although the ballot took place in a mostly calm atmosphere, some violent incidents did occur, including the death of a local member of the United Nations Mission to East Timor (UNAMET). He was the first known casualty in today's ballot, and the first UN worker killed since UNAMET began its mission in May.

"We are saddened by the death of UNAMET member Joel Lopez Gomes," said Minister Axworthy. "This incident demonstrates the critical need for calm and patience during the counting and after the results. The Government of Indonesia must also be vigilant in carrying out its continued responsibility for security in East Timor."

"The voter turnout in East Timor was remarkable, despite the widespread intimidation and violence before the vote," said Mr. Chan. "We are pleased with initial reports that the ballot took place in a relatively peaceful environment."

Minister Chan led a delegation of Canadian observers to East Timor, including Raymonde Folco, MP (Laval West). The delegation observed voting at three locations across East Timor, and Mr. Chan visited nine polling stations.

Results of the popular consultation are not expected for five to seven days, when they will be announced at the United Nations in New York and from UNAMET in Dili.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

August 31, 1999

(2:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 194

## AXWORTHY FOCUSSES ON HUMAN SECURITY IN DISCUSSIONS WITH NORDIC AND BALTIC MINISTERS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy wrapped up a visit to Iceland today after meeting with Iceland's Foreign Minister and Prime Minister. Mr. Axworthy was in Iceland this week to meet with his counterparts from eight Nordic and Baltic countries to discuss human security issues. Central to that session was a discussion on how to better protect our shared environment and how to deal with the problem of persistent organic pollutants in northern regions.

"The Nordic and Baltic ministers recognize the benefits of greater co-operation in tackling human security issues such as pollutants in our northern environment, which affect the livelihoods, health and food supply of our citizens," said Minister Axworthy. "We agreed to pursue and strengthen our co-operative efforts to deal with this particular problem and others that are specific to the North, and to heighten their profile internationally."

Minister Axworthy also welcomed a declaration urging an end to the use of child soldiers, which was issued at the meeting by Nordic ministers. "Canada fully endorses the principles outlined in this declaration, and commends the Nordic countries for taking a strong leadership role on this issue," said the Minister.

Mr. Axworthy noted that discussions with the Nordic and Baltic ministers had built on work initiated at last year's Arctic Council ministerial meeting, which was hosted by Canada, and on subsequent efforts to increase awareness of northern issues and to include them among foreign policy priorities.

Today's bilateral meetings with Iceland's Foreign Minister Asgrimsson and Prime Minister Oddsson were an opportunity to expand talks on northern co-operation. Among the issues discussed were air relations, joint millennium celebrations, the Arctic Council, and Iceland's agenda as chair of the Nordic Council and of the Council of Europe. This visit to Iceland was the first by a Canadian foreign minister in 13 years.



Minister Axworthy is travelling to Helsinki, Finland, for bilateral and Canada-European Union discussions, before proceeding to Riga to meet with Latvia's President and Foreign Affairs Minister.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

August 31, 1999

(4:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 195

## LESTER B. PEARSON CENTRE OPENS OFFICE IN MONTREAL

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today is pleased to announce the opening of the Montreal office of the Lester B. Pearson Canadian International Peacekeeping Training Centre. The main role of this new office will be to provide additional support for the Centre's Francophone programming. The new Montreal office will be funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

"Expansion of the Pearson Centre's activities is vital, especially at a time when Canada is making ongoing efforts to promote a new approach based more on the security of the individual person," Mr. Axworthy said. "Through the quality of training it provides, the Pearson Centre represents a significant contribution by Canada to making this approach a reality at the national and international levels."

The Pearson Centre was established by the federal government in 1994 to support and enhance Canada's contribution to international peace, security and stability.

The Montreal office has been set up in response to growing demand, both in Canada and abroad, for French-language peacekeeping training. Its activities will complement those already conducted in French at the Pearson Centre campus in Cornwallis Park, Nova Scotia.

Jocelyn Coulon, a former journalist who was the head of international news for the Montreal daily *Le Devoir* from 1987 to 1999, will be in charge of the Montreal office.

The Pearson Centre is being called on to play a greater role in supporting Canada's conflict management and resolution activities within the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie.

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For more information on the Lester B. Pearson Canadian International Peacekeeping Training Centre, visit the Centre's Web site:  
<http://www.cdnpeacekeeping.ns.ca>

# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

September 2, 1999

(4:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 196

## **AXWORTHY WELCOMES EU CO-OPERATION IN COMBATTING THE SPREAD OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS**

Today, while attending the European Union-Canada Ministerial meeting in Helsinki, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Finnish Foreign Affairs Minister Tarja Halonen, President of the EU Council, released a joint statement on co-operative efforts to combat the spread of small arms and light weapons.

"The problem of small arms has a tremendous impact on the security of civilians around the world," said Minister Axworthy. "This must be a priority of the international community. The common approach agreed to with the EU is an important step in achieving the co-operation needed to combat this problem."

The text of the joint statement follows.

### **EU-Canada Common Approach to Combat the Spread and Destabilizing Accumulations of Small Arms and Light Weapons**

Further to the December 17, 1998 Joint Statement on Small Arms and Anti-personnel Mines, Canada and the EU are taking a common approach to tackling the problem posed by the excessive and uncontrolled accumulation and spread of small arms. This common approach — both preventive and reactive — is composed of multiple and co-ordinated international, regional and national efforts that contribute to sustainable peace in conflict-prone or affected areas.

Canada and the EU welcome the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to convene an international conference on the illicit arms trade in all its aspects, to be held no later than 2001. Canada and the EU are of the view that this conference must take a comprehensive approach to the problem by considering each of the elements of the common approach. To this end, they will consult on the responses to the United Nations Secretary-General's call for the views of member states as to the date, venue, scope and objectives of, and preparatory work for, the international conference. In this context, the EU welcomes and supports Canada's offer to host a Preparatory Committee in the run-up to the international conference. Both sides underscore the





importance of continued work to elaborate a protocol against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition and other related materials, supplementary to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Canada shares the objectives of the Joint Statement on Small Arms, adopted December 17, 1998. Canada notes with approval that the Joint Statement manifests this common approach, and accordingly, endorses its principles. Canada and the EU seek to further improve their co-operation in advocating the adoption by other States and in other forums of the EU-Canada common approach to dealing with the problem of small arms.

- 30 -

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# News Release

September 2, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 197

## HEMISPHERIC DRUG EFFORT EVALUATION MECHANISM AGREEMENT REACHED IN OTTAWA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Solicitor General Lawrence MacAulay today announced that a working group of anti-drug experts of the Organization of American States (OAS) has finalized an unprecedented Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) for anti-drug efforts in the hemisphere. The working group finalized the MEM at a meeting held in Ottawa from August 31 to September 2.

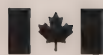
"The Ottawa Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism is a historic achievement," said Mr. Axworthy. "It will be a powerful new tool in the fight against the fundamental threat to human security posed by the trade in and abuse of illicit drugs, enabling governments to strengthen demand-and-supply reduction strategies throughout the hemisphere. It will help develop stronger and better partnerships between countries, and between their health and enforcement officials."

The MEM will allow each country to measure its efforts to deal with the drug problem against the framework set out in the Hemispheric Anti-Drug Strategy. Countries will look at the areas of national drug plans and strategies, prevention and treatment, reduction in drug production and improved law enforcement; they will also measure the human, social and economic costs of their drug problem.

The **Ottawa MEM Agreement** includes:

- a series of **principles, objectives and characteristics** of the MEM;
- a common set of **indicators** of performance and effectiveness;
- a standard **questionnaire**;
- a comprehensive evaluation **procedure**; and
- a basic process for the **first round of evaluation**, set to begin early in 2000.

Early next year, all 34 OAS countries will provide data in response to a standard questionnaire. An intergovernmental experts group will use the results to prepare national evaluations on a country-by-country basis, as well as a hemispheric report. The evaluations will include findings and recommendations; indicate results achieved and



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the best practices that could be applied elsewhere; and identify where improvements can be made. They will also identify obstacles faced by countries and areas where assistance could be offered.

"Canada was pleased to host this important meeting, which is one of several hemispheric gatherings that Canada will host over the next two years," said Mr. Axworthy. "The hosting of these events is indicative of our increasing involvement and commitment to the hemisphere."

"Canada has been a leader in pushing for increased co-operation throughout the hemisphere, emphasizing that a balanced approach to the drug problem — one that stresses both supply reduction and demand reduction — is crucial. The Ottawa MEM is a great step forward in a co-operative approach to the drug problem," said Mr. MacAulay.

This was the sixth meeting of the working group, which first met in May 1998 under the leadership of Canada's Deputy Solicitor General, Jean T. Fournier, to develop the mechanism.

The first round of evaluation will begin in January 2000. Final evaluation reports — including one for Canada — will be completed in time for the next Summit of the Americas in Quebec City in 2001, where the MEM will be a key issue on the agenda.

For more details on the MEM, consult the MEM Web page on the Internet site of Solicitor General Canada ([www.sgc.gc.ca](http://www.sgc.gc.ca)).

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

September 3, 1999

(9:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 198

## AXWORTHY APPLAUDS SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF BALLOT PROCESS IN EAST TIMOR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today applauded the successful conclusion of the United Nations-sponsored ballot on the future of East Timor and noted the clear majority (78.5 percent) who had supported separation from Indonesia.

"The people of East Timor have expressed their will," said Mr. Axworthy. "The decision of an overwhelming majority on a clear question makes the result unambiguous. The task now is for all East Timorese to contribute to national reconciliation and building a peaceful future."

The Minister congratulated the Indonesian government for its co-operation with Portugal and the United Nations in presenting East Timor with the opportunity to clearly express its will about its future.

He urged the Indonesian authorities to maintain peace and order in East Timor in the wake of the vote, to provide necessary security and to quell destabilizing violence, including the activities of militias. He stressed that international personnel (including 30 Canadians) assisting with the transitional process must be protected. Mr. Axworthy had conveyed this point to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in a telephone conversation earlier today. He also discussed with the Secretary-General the overall security situation in East Timor and the role of the international community in the transitional process.

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan led Canada's observer delegation to East Timor for the ballot. He said, "I trust the People's Consultative Assembly of Indonesia will follow through by moving forward with measures for a transition to independence."

Mr. Axworthy noted that Canada has been among the world's largest contributors to development assistance in East Timor and will continue to do its fair share in the future.

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

September 8, 1999

( 3:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 199

## MINISTER AXWORTHY WELCOMES SHARM EL-SHEIKH AGREEMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the agreement signed September 4 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization on the implementation of the Wye River Accord and the resumption of permanent status negotiations.

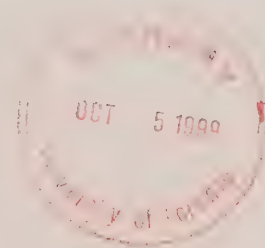
"I commend the parties for their determination in reaching this important agreement, which is a crucial step in re-establishing the momentum of the peace process," said Mr. Axworthy. "We are confident that this agreement has placed Israel and the Palestinians squarely on the path to a just and lasting peace."

Under the Sharm el-Sheikh Agreement, Israel will transfer another West Bank territory to Palestinian control in three phases between September 13 and January 20. By February 13, a framework agreement on permanent status negotiations is due to be put in place. It is hoped that a final peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians will be signed by September 13, 2000. "The establishment of fixed time lines for implementing the agreement is also a significant step which will add a focus to the negotiations," added Minister Axworthy.

Mr. Axworthy also commended the Government of Egypt for its assistance in the negotiations, and recognized the support of the United States and Jordan. "The leaders of these countries have once again proven their commitment to advancing the cause of peace," said Mr. Axworthy.

The Minister noted the active support that Canada is providing to the peace process through its role as the Chair of the Refugee Working Group and its involvement in other multilateral elements of the peace process.

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

September 9, 1999

(9:00 a.m. EDT)

No.200

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES CONTRIBUTION TO NGO AT APEC

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced a \$30 000 contribution to the Institute for Media, Policy and Civil Society (IMPACS), a Canadian non-governmental organization that held a seminar on trade and freedom of information legislation in member economies of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum.

Mr. Axworthy made the announcement at the IMPACS event held during the APEC ministerial meeting in Auckland, New Zealand.

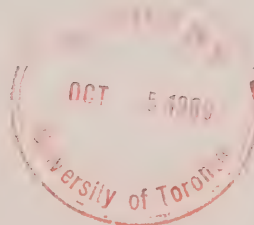
"Our active participation in APEC is an important aspect of our identity as an Asia-Pacific nation. I believe that NGOs provide a value-added perspective to our agenda," said Mr. Axworthy.

IMPACS, which is based in Vancouver, hosted a roundtable dialogue entitled "Access to Information in the Context of Trade Negotiations" at APEC. Among the participants were Asia-Pacific journalists, freedom of information legislation experts and representatives from the World Bank and UNESCO. Topics included freedom of information policies in APEC member economies and promoting transparency in trade negotiations.

Minister Axworthy noted that broadening public engagement is one of the key themes of this year's APEC meetings. He said, "Canada is a strong believer in consulting with the widest cross section of society in developing government policies. We advocate this approach in APEC as well. While the forum already has strong formal linkages with business, we look forward to bringing other communities into the process, including women, labour, academics and youth. Seminars such as this are a means to introduce APEC and its activities to a wider audience throughout the Pacific Rim."

The contribution to the IMPACS comes from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Peacebuilding Program.

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

September 10, 1999

(12:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 201

## CANADIAN CONCERT IN KOSOVO TO SUPPORT BANNING LANDMINES AND REBUILDING THE HUMAN SPIRIT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced a Canadian concert in Kosovo, sponsored jointly with UNICEF, to raise awareness of the ban on landmines and to help rebuild the human spirit. On Sunday, September 12, singer Bruce Cockburn and Tribe of One will perform at the Pristina Sports Complex in Kosovo.

Mr. Axworthy said, Canada is helping rebuild Kosovo. That rebuilding effort must focus not only on bricks and mortar; we must also help rebuild the human spirit. The welfare of the Kosovo community merits special priority in Canadian foreign policy today."

Canadian singer-songwriter Bruce Cockburn will present selections from his rich and varied work, which has won him critical acclaim. Tribe of One, a Winnipeg-based group of four musicians, two dancers and two visual artists, will integrate rock music, dance and painting live on stage with an art therapy approach.

This uniquely Canadian event will take place on the fringe of "The Return," the International Festival of Music and Theatre. The Festival is being held under the auspices of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and UNICEF. Actor Vanessa Redgrave spearheaded efforts to organize the Festival and it has received support from a host of artists, including Mikhail Baryshnikov, Bono, Elton John, Sting, and Meryl Streep. The aim is to support the rebuilding of the Kosovo cultural and education community.

On September 10 in Skopje, in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the International Festival of Music and Theatre will present a concert featuring Philip Glass and Foday Musa Suso. On September 11 in Pristina, Kosovo, the playbill will include the Martha Graham Dance Company and the première of *The Cursed*, a drama written and directed by Enver Petrovci, with Vanessa Redgrave performing. The closing concert on September 12 in Pristina will feature world-renowned musicians, such as violinist Akiko Ono and pianist Katharina Wolpe.



Air Canada is arranging transportation for the Canadian artists taking part in this Festival.

To support the Kosovo cultural community, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has provided \$200 000 in funding under its International Cultural Relations Program. The Program supports initiatives in the area of the arts and higher education undertaken abroad.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

September 10, 1999

(5:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 202

## AXWORTHY AND CHINESE COUNTERPART ADDRESS PEOPLE SMUGGLING ISSUE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed satisfaction with a discussion held with his Chinese counterpart, Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan, on the issue of people smuggling. The ministers met on the margins of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting in Auckland, New Zealand.

"Minister Tang and I had a useful dialogue," said Mr. Axworthy. "We agreed that the most appropriate mechanism to deal with people smuggling is the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Cooperation in Combatting Crime that was signed during Premier Zhu Rongji's visit to Canada last April. Among other provisions, the MOU provides for co-operation between the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Chinese Ministry of Public Security on the issue of smuggling. This will facilitate the access of Canadian law enforcement officials to their colleagues in Fujian province, the main source of recent asylum seekers on the west coast."

"We must use every tool at our disposal to stem this exploitation and to ensure appropriate punishment for those who engage in it," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan, who is also attending the APEC Ministerial Meeting. "Only by sharing our knowledge and expertise with the Chinese government can we combat the criminal elements responsible for this activity."

Minister Axworthy noted that he had asked Bill Graham, Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade, to follow up on the people smuggling issue with senior Chinese officials. Mr. Graham is heading a parliamentary delegation which includes Members of Parliament Sophia Leung (Vancouver-Kingsway) and Dr. Carolyn Bennett (St. Paul's) that will visit China on an exchange with the Foreign Affairs Committee of China's National People's Congress. The delegation will be in China from September 13 to 23 and is expected to explore a wide range of political and trade issues.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

September 13, 1999

(5:20 p.m. EDT)

No. 203

## AXWORTHY VISITS FIJI

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, in Fiji following the conclusion of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum ministerial meeting in Auckland, New Zealand, will take part in bilateral discussions today with Fiji's acting Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tupeni Baba. He will also meet with South Pacific Forum Secretary-General Noel Levi. The Forum is the political grouping of states in the South Pacific region.

These meetings will be an opportunity to discuss issues affecting Fiji and other islands, such as the effects of global warming and management and conservation of ocean resources, and in particular the work of the Canada-South Pacific Ocean Development Program. The meetings will also present an opportunity to discuss problems particular to small states, such as income volatility due to trade dependence, lack of institutional capacity, higher propensity to natural disasters and limited capacity to provide public services. Such problems are the subject of a current World Bank-Commonwealth joint study.

"Fiji and the South Pacific islands are important partners for Canada," said Minister Axworthy, noting their strong support for Canada's Security Council bid. "This is an opportunity to follow up on our commitment to pay particular attention to the concerns of small and island states, and to help raise those issues at the UN and other international forums."

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

September 15, 1999

(4:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 204

## CANADA'S OBJECTIVES MET AS SECURITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZES MULTINATIONAL FORCE FOR EAST TIMOR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy welcomed today the successful and unanimous passage of the United Nations Security Council resolution authorizing a multinational force for East Timor.

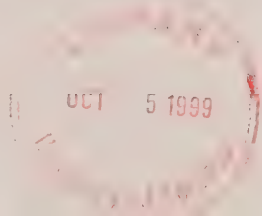
"The speed with which this important resolution was approved demonstrates the international community's sense of urgency over the situation in East Timor,"

Mr. Axworthy said. "Our overriding objective was to see the rapid deployment of an international peacekeeping force to East Timor to stop the violence. We also worked hard to ensure that humanitarian assistance is delivered under secure conditions, that all displaced East Timorese are guaranteed the right of safe return and that those who have committed atrocities in East Timor are brought to justice. The inclusion of all these elements in the Security Council resolution demonstrates that Canadian objectives for East Timor are shared by the international community."

Canada has long been a proponent of the need for rapid deployment of peacekeeping forces, particularly in response to humanitarian needs.

The Minister noted that Canada played an active role at the Security Council on the issue of East Timor. Canada repeatedly urged the Council to remind the Government of Indonesia of its responsibility to maintain security in the territory. Canada's initiative to convene a meeting of 20 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum representatives, and British Foreign Minister Robin Cook, on the margins of the recent APEC meeting in Auckland, was critical in generating the necessary consensus for a peacekeeping mission. It also helped to convince the Government of Indonesia to accept such a force.

As a current member of the Security Council, Canada was among the first to call on the UN to produce a plan for an accelerated UN peacekeeping presence. In addition, Canada strongly supported the deployment of a Security Council delegation to Indonesia to convey the Council's concerns directly to the Government of Indonesia.



Canada helped ensure that humanitarian and international justice issues were appropriately addressed in the final resolution.

Canada will be contributing up to 600 personnel to the multinational force and is consulting with both the UN and Australia, the lead nation, to determine what services Canada is best able to provide. Canada hopes that the international force will be turned over to a UN-commanded peacekeeping operation as soon as possible.

Mr. Axworthy drew attention to the participation of Canada's ambassador to Indonesia, Ken Sunquist, who travelled to West Timor on September 14 with his Norwegian counterpart and five Indonesian ministers to assess the humanitarian situation there. Canada, through CIDA, has pledged \$420 000 to CARE Canada, which is currently working from West Timor to provide survival kits to 25 000 people.

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

September 16, 1999

(9:00 a.m. EDT)

No. 205

## RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov will make an official visit to Ottawa on September 18 to discuss international issues of common concern, including East Timor, Kosovo and arms control and disarmament.

"Russia is a key player on the international stage and an important partner for Canada in multilateral forums," said Mr. Axworthy. "With the heavy agenda at the UN this fall and elections in Russia beginning in December this year, it is important for Canada to maintain a constructive and forward-looking dialogue."

During Mr. Ivanov's one-day visit, the two ministers will also discuss this fall's agenda at the United Nations, including Iraq. As the Co-Chair of a Working Group on the Arctic and the North within the Canada-Russia Intergovernmental Economic Commission, Mr. Axworthy will raise the challenges facing investors in Russia and joint projects in the Arctic and North.

Minister Axworthy and Minister Ivanov have met frequently this year, including most recently at Association of Southeast Asian Nations meetings in Singapore and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in Auckland. Mr. Axworthy also met with Mr. Ivanov in Moscow in April to discuss the situation in Kosovo. This will be Mr. Ivanov's first visit to Canada as Minister.

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

September 16, 1999

(5:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 206

## AXWORTHY LAUDS UN REPORT ON PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS IN ARMED CONFLICT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed strong support for the recommendations to enhance both the legal and physical protection of civilians in armed conflict, contained in UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's report to the UN Security Council.

The report, *Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict*, was prepared by Mr. Annan as a result of a Canadian initiative during Canada's Security Council presidency in February, when Minister Axworthy chaired a formal Council meeting on this subject.

The report builds on previous analyses and provides practical recommendations for enhancing civilian protection before, at the onset of, and during armed conflict. The report's recommendations do not put the onus solely on combatants, but highlight the responsibilities of the international community to improve the plight of war-affected populations.

"Civilian casualties and mass displacement are no longer merely by-products of today's conflicts, but often explicit in the strategy of combatants," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada strongly supports the report's emphasis on the need for the Council to respond to situations where civilians are deliberately targeted or humanitarian assistance is obstructed."

Minister Axworthy welcomes Secretary-General Annan's call for a follow-up mechanism to the report being debated today in a Security Council meeting open to all UN member states. The Minister is also pleased with the participation in the debate of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson, since the report contains recommendations to the Security Council on a range of civilian protection issues, notably:

- enhancing UN conflict prevention roles, including preventive deployments;
- strengthening adherence to international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law;



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- addressing gaps in international law to improve protection of internally displaced persons and humanitarian personnel;
- addressing the plight of war-affected children;
- ensuring access for humanitarian assistance;
- increasing training for UN military, civilian police and administrative personnel in human rights and humanitarian law, including gender- and child-related provisions;
- ensuring the civilian character of camps for refugees and displaced persons;
- imposing sanctions against those who target civilians or systematically abuse human rights and increasing the effort to minimize the humanitarian impact of sanctions;
- curbing the use of hate media; and
- strengthening the UN's rapid deployment capacity.

As part of its human security agenda, Canada is already actively engaged in pursuing many of the recommendations raised by the Secretary-General in his report.

"Canada will work at this year's General Assembly, during the remainder of its Council term and beyond, to ensure that the report's recommendations are followed up with concrete measures at the UN and in other international bodies," said Minister Axworthy.

Canada has developed a number of special partnerships with like-minded countries on human security issues. Within our special Lysoen Partnership with Norway, established in May 1998, we have engaged a broader network of countries with a view to encouraging better collaboration on these issues. Chile, Ireland, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, Jordan, Thailand and South Africa (as an observer) have joined Canada and Norway as part of the Human Security Network.

On the margins of United Nations General Assembly 54, Minister Axworthy, as Co-Chair of the Human Security Network, will host an informal luncheon on September 24, in New York, for the foreign ministers of countries participating in the Network. The luncheon will provide an opportunity to discuss strategies to implement elements of the Secretary-General's report, *Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict*. As well, the Minister will meet with NGOs to seek their views on the report.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

September 17, 1999

(5:10 p.m. EDT)

No. 207

## AXWORTHY TO ADVOCATE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS IN ARMED CONFLICT AT UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will be in New York from September 20 to 24 and from September 29 to October 1 to attend the 54th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and to participate in a series of meetings and UN Security Council (UNSC) debates. Minister Axworthy will deliver Canada's address to the General Assembly at 11:30 a.m. on September 23.

Canada's focus at this year's General Assembly will be to press for timely action by member states on the recently released report by the Secretary-General, entitled *The Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict*. The report, the product of a Canadian initiative last February, was the subject of a Council debate today that resulted in the unanimous adoption of Security Council Resolution 1265. This resolution, introduced by Canada, provides Council backing for key report recommendations and commits the Council to a follow-up process in which Canada will play a leading role.

"Canada welcomes the establishment of a Council working group as a result of Resolution 1265, which will seek early implementation of the Secretary-General's recommendations on the protection of civilians," said Minister Axworthy. "We will continue to make this issue a priority for our Council term and beyond."

"Canada's current membership on the UNSC has enhanced our ability to advance our human security agenda within the UN through action on such priority issues as the protection of civilians in armed conflict, war-affected children, conflict prevention and peacebuilding," added the Minister.

On September 20, Mr. Axworthy will participate in a UNSC hemispheric Ministerial Quadrilateral meeting (United States, Canada, Brazil, Argentina). The following day, the Minister will attend a trilateral foreign ministerial dinner hosted by Mexican Foreign Minister Rosario Green, also attended by U.S. Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright.

The Minister will host a meeting on September 22 of Central American Foreign Ministers, including those from Belize, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic,





El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and the *Secretariado de Integración Centro Americano* (SICA). Minister Axworthy will welcome the active participation of Central American countries in a number of Inter-American events that Canada is hosting later this year. He will also work with his colleagues to identify areas for enhanced co-operation, and to develop hemispheric strategies in response to the Secretary-General's report, *The Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict*.

During the evening of the 22nd, Minister Axworthy will meet with his colleagues from the G-8, as a follow-up to their meeting in Cologne last June. In addition to addressing such critical UN issues as the situation in East Timor, they will continue discussions of Cologne summit agreements, among which topics dealing with peace and security figure prominently.

In addition to Canada's statement to the General Assembly on September 23, the Minister will deliver the keynote address, "Civilians in War", at a dinner hosted by the Carnegie Foundation and the International Peace Academy that evening.

On September 24 Minister Axworthy will co-host a luncheon for foreign ministers of countries participating in the Human Security Network, which will provide an opportunity to discuss the Secretary-General's report and areas for joint co-operation. The luncheon will also permit further dialogue on how the Network can build on discussions launched at Bergen in 1998, with the establishment of Canada and Norway's Lysoen Partnership for bilateral co-operation on human security.

Minister Axworthy will attend the September 24 Security Council ministerial meeting on small arms and light weapons and deliver the Canadian statement on the subject. The meeting is being convened by the Dutch, who hold the Council's rotating presidency this month. The meeting will focus on the nature of the accumulation and spread of small arms and the resultant impact on security, peacebuilding and development. Tackling the challenges posed by small arms and light weapons is a key priority, which Canada has highlighted repeatedly in the Security Council and in other international and regional forums.

On September 29, Mr. Axworthy will deliver a Canadian statement at a UNSC open debate on the situation in Africa. The meeting will be chaired by Dutch Prime Minister Wim Kok. Canada supports African initiatives to develop independent policies in the areas of conflict prevention, peacebuilding and crisis response, and in particular the efforts of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in conflict resolution and prevention.

In light of the Secretary-General's report, Mr. Axworthy will consult with Non-Governmental Organizations on September 29, about how to work together on advancing the key priorities of the protection of civilians agenda. The Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) will meet from September 30 to October 1 to discuss

two key issues: how the Commonwealth can assist Sierra Leone achieve peace and reconstruction, and the future of the CMAG.

Throughout his two weeks at UNGA 54, Minister Axworthy will meet with many of his counterparts in bilateral sessions. During the course of these meetings, he plans to raise pressing consular matters, including the case of Murray Hiebert, the Canadian journalist imprisoned in a Malaysian jail, and the ongoing Canadian hostage situation in Ecuador.

Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray, Minister of State and Government House Leader Don Boudria, International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew, Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna, and Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour, will also represent Canada in New York during the General Assembly. Their programs include bilateral discussions and participation at various meetings.

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

September 20, 1999

( 12:10 p.m. EDT)

No. 208

## TORONTO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA GOES AHEAD WITH SCALED-DOWN EUROPEAN TOUR

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the Department's full support of a scaled-down version of the European tour of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO), following the cancellation of its original tour two weeks ago. The new European tour will begin on February 25, 2000, under the baton of Music Director Jukka-Pekka Saraste, with concerts in Stuttgart, Berlin, Frankfurt, Cologne, Budapest and Vienna.

"The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) believes strongly in this project. It was not only the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's credibility that was at stake abroad, but the image of Canada as a whole," said Mr. Axworthy. "Culture influences the way people see Canada and it is therefore an important element of Canadian foreign policy."

Following the cancellation of the original tour due to a significant shortfall in funding, DFAIT received entreaties for its reinstatement from the European presenters and Canadian embassies abroad. As a result, the TSO management, in co-operation with the Orchestra's European agent, DFAIT and committed corporate sponsors, explored a number of options.

"Obviously we were desperately disappointed when we were forced to cancel the original tour," said George Tiviluk, Chairman of the Board of the TSO. "But we simply could not countenance the economic loss we faced with the tour in its original form. Although we looked far and wide for cost cuts prior to the cancellation, they came nowhere near to solving the problem. Ironically, the cancellation gave us a clean sheet to consider a new blueprint."

"In putting together the new plan, which will no longer lose money, we have had significant encouragement and help from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International trade, as well as several private sponsors," added Tiviluk.

The original tour was to have consisted of 15 concerts in six countries in 18 days. In this new configuration the Orchestra will play eight concerts in three countries in 10 days.



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DFAIT will provide \$220 000 in funding under its International Cultural Relations Program to support the new TSO tour. The International Cultural Relations Program supports initiatives undertaken abroad in the area of the arts and higher education.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1999 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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# News Release

[www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca)

September 21, 1999

(9:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 209

## U.S.-CANADA-MEXICO TRILATERAL MEETING

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, Foreign Secretary Rosario Green of Mexico, and Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy of Canada met in New York on September 21 to review trilateral issues, promote closer co-operation among, and discuss issues of common concern to the three countries of North America. This is the second such meeting of the Ministers.

The Ministers issued a framework statement setting forth a vision of the emerging North American partnership, noting that the three governments "will support and promote new and existing co-operative efforts" and that they are "committed to working together to address trilateral, regional, and global issues where we share goals, interests, and agendas."

The three Ministers announced new measures to advance this special relationship, including the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding on development assistance co-operation, which was also signed on behalf of Maria Minna, Canadian Minister for International Co-operation. Under this Memorandum, the governments will identify areas for co-ordination of activities and information sharing. They have agreed to consider co-operation in the water sector in Central America, especially in the light of reconstruction efforts following Hurricane Mitch.

The ongoing trilateral discussions have also led to important and concrete advances on a host of trilateral issues. The Ministers also reviewed the close co-operation that has taken place over the last year among our Y2K experts to address potential problems and are satisfied with the progress made. They also discussed ways of engaging women's groups in the emerging trilateral relationship, the need for enhancing environmental co-operation, North American transport corridors and expanding existing cultural and education exchange programs. In addition, they agreed to collaborate on a conference of North American young professionals in Montreal in the spring of 2000.

The Ministers also discussed a range of current world affairs and ways in which common agendas, interests and objectives could be pursued trilaterally or multilaterally.



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They agreed to consult frequently in the UN, OAS and other regional and international fora.

Secretary Albright, Secretary Green, and Minister Axworthy have recognized that "our societies and cultures are coming together as never before." The permanent high-level dialogue among the three Ministers will continue to deepen and widen the engagement that exists among our three nations.

- 30 -

A backgrounder is attached.

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(613) 995-1874

## **Backgrounder**

### **NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CONFERENCE - MONTREAL SPRING 2000**

As part of the trilateral dialogue started in 1998, Minister Axworthy, Foreign Secretary Rosario Green, and Secretary of State Albright all expressed the need to encourage, support and promote dialogue at all levels, particularly among our respective publics. In this spirit, Mexico and the United States have agreed to support a Canadian initiative for a North American Youth Conference to take place in the spring of 2000 in Montreal.

The Conference will bring together up to 20 young people (ages 25 to 30) from each country from a variety of backgrounds (business, arts, education, NGOs, etc.) for a two-day conference to discuss emerging North American issues. Invitations to address the group will also be extended to several public figures who could offer unique, North American perspectives on some of the issues under discussion. The objective is to help stimulate the development of a continent-wide network of individuals who can help to show leadership in advancing the cause of greater North American co-operation.

While a conference agenda has not yet been finalized, broad themes that could emerge include: building bridges between North American civil societies; affirming cultural distinctiveness; improving common environmental stewardship; and North America in the information age.

Preliminary discussions about conference elements have already been held among officials of the three governments. All three partners have agreed to share conference costs. Private sector support will be sought as well.





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# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

September 22, 1999

(1:25 p.m. EDT)

No. 210

## MINISTER PETTIGREW MEETS U.S. TRADE OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON

International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew today announced his first official visit to the United States since being appointed to the international trade portfolio. Minister Pettigrew is in Washington today where he will meet with his counterpart, U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, Secretary of Commerce William Daley and Congressional Representatives, to discuss a variety of trade matters.

"With more than 80 percent of all Canadian exports going south of the border, the United States is Canada's number one trading partner and we are their's," said Minister Pettigrew. "Overall we have an excellent trading relationship — in fact the largest in the world. I look forward to meeting with Ambassador Barshefsky."

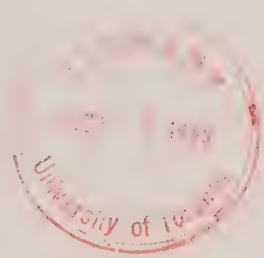
Canada trades over \$1.5 billion a day with the U.S., almost all of which is free trade. Minister Pettigrew and Ambassador Barshefsky will take this opportunity to exchange views prior to key multilateral trade meetings, such as the Free Trade Area of the Americas Trade Ministerial meeting in Toronto next month, and the World Trade Organization Ministerial meeting in Seattle in November. They are also expected to review Canada-U.S. bilateral relations.

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et du Commerce international

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# News Release

www.dfaic-maeci.gc.ca

September 22, 1999

(6:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 211

## ONGOING SITUATION OF EIGHT KIDNAPPED CANADIANS PROMPTS KILGOUR VISIT TO ECUADOR AND COLOMBIA

Further to his discussions with his Ecuadorian counterpart last week, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour will travel to Quito (Ecuador) and Bogota (Colombia), September 23 to 29, to meet with senior officials of both countries' governments and to discuss the kidnapping of eight Canadians earlier this month in Ecuador. The eight Canadians are among a group of 12 people who were kidnapped in Sucumbios, Ecuador, a region situated close to the Colombian border.

"The fact that the identity of the kidnappers, as well as details of the conditions under which the hostages are being held, remain unknown, is a source of great frustration and of major concern to Canada," said Mr. Axworthy. "I have asked Mr. Kilgour to meet with the Ecuadorian and Colombian authorities to convey our concerns and those of the victims' families, and to review with them the facts in the hope of finding ways to resolve the situation."

Mr. Axworthy also announced that he will meet with the Foreign Affairs Ministers of both countries tomorrow, on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly being held in New York City.

"Canada considers this to be an extremely important matter, and is committed to using all possible avenues to secure the freedom of the hostages," stated Mr. Kilgour.

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# News Release

September 24, 1999

(1:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 212

## GOVERNMENT OF CANADA HOSTS NINTH CONFERENCE OF SPOUSES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS

The Government of Canada today announced that the Ninth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas, will be held in Ottawa from September 29 to October 1, 1999. The conference will be hosted and chaired by Mrs. Aline Chrétien, wife of the Canadian Prime Minister, and moderated by Mrs. Huguette Labelle, President of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Entitled "Women of the Americas: Agents of Change", the Conference will welcome more than 30 influential women to discuss the hemisphere's common challenges and shared social goals. This is the first time that the yearly conference is being held in Canada.

This year, the two main themes of the Conference of Spouses are: "A Healthy Start: Investing in Children 0 to 6" and "Women's Health". "Both of these themes are relevant to all countries of the Americas," said Mrs. Chrétien. "I look forward to sharing our experiences with the representatives attending the Conference."

In a departure from previous conferences, the Ninth Conference of Spouses will include a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Fair. The Fair will feature NGOs active throughout the hemisphere and dedicated to improving early childhood development and the well-being of women. "Canada hopes to share its expertise on women's and children's issues with the participants of the Conference of Spouses," stated Mrs. Labelle. "I welcome the opportunity that the Conference and NGO Fair offers us to highlight our own initiatives."

Hosting the Ninth Conference of Spouses this year is consistent with Canada's increased commitment to, and involvement in hemispheric co-operation and progress. Canada will be hosting the following inter-American events over the next two years: the Americas Business Forum (Nov. 1 to 3, 1999), a meeting of the Free Trade Area of the



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Americas (FTAA) trade ministers (Nov. 3 to 4, 1999), the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (June 4 to 6, 2000) and the 2001 Summit of the Americas.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

September 24, 1999

(4:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 213

## ARMENIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Armenian Foreign Affairs Minister, Vartan Oskanian, will make an official visit to Canada from September 25 to 28, starting his visit in Toronto and continuing to Montreal and Ottawa.

"Canada is encouraged to see that Armenia is among the front-runners in undertaking key economic and political reforms," said Mr. Axworthy. "Mr. Oskanian's visit is an excellent opportunity to deepen Canadian-Armenian ties and to discuss human security, Kosovo, and regional political and economic stability."

The Armenian Minister's first visit to Canada will begin in Toronto, on September 25, where he will attend a reception hosted by Minister of Transport David Collenette, followed by a dinner given by the Armenian community.

Mr. Oskanian will meet with the Canadian-Armenian Business Council in Toronto before travelling to Montreal for an event hosted by the Montreal chapter of the Canadian-Armenian Business Council on September 26.

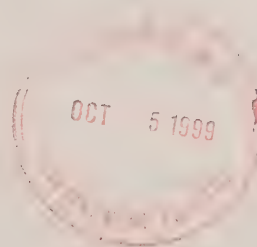
Minister Oskanian will meet Minister Axworthy on September 27. He will also meet Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray and the Speaker of the Senate, Gildas Molgat.

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# News Release

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

September 27, 1999

(4:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 214

## PETTIGREW CALLS ON EXPORTERS TO EXPLAIN THE BENEFITS OF TRADE TO CANADIANS

In today's keynote address to the Alliance of Manufacturers and Exporters Canada, International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew called on exporters to explain the benefits of trade to Canadians as we head into World Trade Organization (WTO) talks this November, and continue ongoing negotiations for a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA).

Minister Pettigrew said that the principle of transparency will govern Canada's approach to international trade negotiations. The Minister also stressed the need for industry to help involve Canadians in trade issues by providing them with more information about the role of trade in Canada's economy.

"Over 40 percent of our GDP is exported, a higher proportion than for any other G-7 country. The vast majority of new jobs since 1993 are due to increased trade through our progress in international markets. It is quite clear that there are very real social benefits for Canadians," said the Minister, adding that prosperity generated by trade can be the solution to social problems.

"Now that I am in an economic portfolio, I will not forget the importance of this relationship. Trade growth will generate increased revenues, which can in turn help to fund Canada's social programs... a 'virtuous circle'," said Minister Pettigrew.

Mr. Pettigrew also said that the breadth of trade issues and the links between social and economic issues make it critical that the Government of Canada work in partnership with the provinces, industry, non-governmental organizations, and ordinary Canadians. He will meet with his provincial counterparts in Toronto in October to discuss Canada's position for the WTO talks in Seattle.

The Minister indicated that Canada is fully engaged in the Geneva preparatory process, including tabling a proposal on electronic commerce. Canada will also put forward proposals on biotechnology, subsidies, policy coherence, trade and the environment,





and transparency. The Minister's response to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade's report on Canada and the future of the WTO will be tabled in early November, and will include a detailed description of objectives for Seattle.

Minister Pettigrew said that the main objective of the FTAA negotiations is the development of a comprehensive trade agreement for all 34 democratic nations of the western hemisphere by 2005. The Minister announced that an outline of this agreement should be ready when he hosts trade ministers from the hemisphere at the FTAA ministerial meeting in Toronto in November.

The full text of the Minister's speech and all other documents referred to in this release will be made available on the department's web site at [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

October 1, 1999

(11:25 a.m. EDT)

No. 215

## AXWORTHY CONCERNED ABOUT SITUATION IN CHECHNYA

Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed concern over the situation in Chechnya.

"In my meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov in Ottawa on September 18, he and I rededicated ourselves to combatting international terrorism. Canada condemns all forms of terrorism and supports efforts to bring the perpetrators of recent attacks in Moscow, Dagestan and elsewhere to justice," the Minister said.

Mr. Axworthy added, "Since our last meeting, the crisis in the North Caucasus has deepened. Canada is concerned about reports of mounting casualties in the civilian population, triggering a large outflow of refugees."

Canadian officials are making representations in Moscow and held talks with Russia's Ambassador Churkin in Ottawa yesterday. "Canada supports the need for a reinforced humanitarian presence and facilities in and around Chechnya," the Minister said.

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# News Release

October 1, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 216

## FIRST SPOUSES ENDORSE SIX PROJECTS ON THE HEALTH OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE AMERICAS

Participants at the Ninth Conference of First Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas ended their two-day conference today with an endorsement of six projects that will ensure the long-term health of women and children in the Americas.

"We have learned a great deal from each other over the past two days about the current situation of women and children in the hemisphere," said Conference Chair Aline Chrétien. "The projects endorsed here today are key to promoting the long-term health of women and ensuring a new generation of healthy and safe children."

The projects range from ensuring the right of every child to receive a birth certificate to preventing the mother-to-child transmission of HIV and AIDS. The common thread running through all of these projects is the role of public education in achieving their objectives.

"Raising public awareness plays a critical role in understanding the issues affecting women and children and in contributing to a solution," said Huguette Labelle, Moderator of the Conference and President of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). "A central element in each of the projects is a requirement to educate children, parents, caregivers and the community on women's health and child development programs."

The annual conference brought together 31 of the most influential women in the Americas to discuss the themes: "Women's Health" and "A Healthy Start: Investing in Children 0-6." It also drew 103 non-governmental organizations from Canada and the hemisphere for a parallel two-day conference and fair.

At the next Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas in Haiti in 2000, conference participants will be updated on the status of projects that they endorsed today. A backgrounder on the six projects is attached.

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The Declaration of the Spouses of the Heads of State and Government of the Americas is attached.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> and the Hemisphere Summit Office's Internet site <http://www.americascanada.org>

## Backgrounder

### PROJECTS ENDORSED BY FIRST SPOUSES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS

Registration of Children Across the Americas is a campaign to ensure that all children in Latin America and the Caribbean are registered by 2005. Each year, more than one million children born in Latin America and the Caribbean are not registered.

This United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) project will work with civil registration offices and organize widespread information campaigns, targeting children from ethnic minorities, rural areas and low-income groups. The goal is to provide all children with birth certificates, which are needed for children to be vaccinated, treated at health centres and enrolled in school.

This project will work to make people aware that it is compulsory to register births; to ensure the registration is free-of-charge and transparent; to eliminate red tape in civil registry offices to make registration easier; and to inform parents of the need and right of their children to have a legal name.

Early Childhood Care for Survival, Growth and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean is a UNICEF initiative that promotes the idea that the best ways to ensure that children develop to their fullest potential in school is to pay attention to their care before they enter the formal education system.

This public education campaign will promote the long-term benefits of early childhood education, i.e. the years from birth to six years of age, as essential to providing children with the skills and values needed to ensure they reach their greatest potential.

Adopting an integrated approach that involves pre-school teachers, parents and caregivers, and the community, this project will promote the importance of developing early childhood education policies, strategies and programs. The project also aims to teach children from an early age about their rights as laid out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Integrated Management of Childhood Diseases is an ongoing project of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) that seeks to reduce the high mortality rates from preventable diseases among children under five years of age.

Each year, more than 250 000 children under the age of five die in the Americas due to preventable illnesses. This project seeks to reduce the number of needless deaths by educating parents, communities and health-care providers on health promotion and nutrition, and on the importance of vaccinations.



The DESAPER Project, or Perinatal Health Development Project, is an ongoing PAHO program to improve perinatal, maternal and child health in four countries.

Launched in 1989, this far-reaching program is currently being carried out in Bolivia, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru. This service network is made up of 85 health centres, eight major hospitals and eight regional referral centres. It services a population of 500 000 people throughout an area of more than 30 000 square kilometres.

This final phase of the project will involve developing an action plan for participating governments to incorporate the experiences of the DESAPER Project into their national health policies.

Prevention of Domestic Violence Through Children's Education is a project of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI), a specialized agency of the Organization of American States (OAS). This project focuses on the prevention of domestic violence through family education, in schools and through the media.

This project was conceived as an education tool and as a means of transmitting values and principles of non-violence to children. Domestic violence, when witnessed or experienced by children, affects their performance at school and has long-term implications for their development.

The aims of this project are to organize public awareness campaigns in co-operation with local media; to participate in the national planning, development and promotion of national policies and legislation related to women, children and families; and to include the subject of non-violence in primary and secondary schools.

Prevention of AIDS in Mothers and Children is a project of the Joint United Nations Program on (UNAIDS) to mobilize political and public support to reduce the transmission of HIV/AIDS.

This AIDS prevention and awareness campaign will focus on the transmission of the disease from mother to child. More than 1.7 million people live with HIV/AIDS in Latin America and the Caribbean; 390 000 are women and nearly 30 000 are children. Mother-to-child transmission is the largest source of HIV infection in children under the age of 15.

This project will address the need for an increased awareness of the basic facts of HIV transmission and prevention, especially among young people; the mother-to-child transmission and the possibility of having an uninfected child through a series of preventative measures; the availability of counselling and voluntary testing; and the issues of stigma, fear, and human rights.

**DECLARATION  
OF THE NINTH CONFERENCE OF SPOUSES  
OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT  
OF THE AMERICAS**

**Ottawa, Canada  
October 1, 1999**





## OTTAWA DECLARATION

We, the Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas and Government Delegates gathered in Ottawa, Canada from September 29 to October 1, 1999 for our Ninth Conference, "*Women of the Americas: Agents of Change*," in reaffirmation of our will and determination to contribute to the well-being of the people of our nations, subscribe to the following Declaration:

1. We consider that the Conferences of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas represent a unique opportunity to foster the exchange of ideas, build hemispheric cooperation and integrate the efforts of our respective countries in the fight against poverty for the full enjoyment of equal rights and opportunities for all.
2. With the advent of the new millennium, all countries of the hemisphere will face common challenges and will share common social development goals. We reaffirm our determination to approach these objectives in a vigorous and integrated way with the participation, and for the benefit, of all sectors of society
3. We firmly believe that it is imperative to focus our efforts on behalf of those who are the most vulnerable, who continue to face the obstacles arising from discrimination and injustice.
4. On the basis of the existing global and hemispheric consensus on social development goals, we recognize the achievements attained to date and the need to consolidate them. We reaffirm our common will to pursue these goals, giving priority to those human groups most in need of support and to the problems and social services that require further attention.
5. We recognize the need for enhanced participation of civil society, and women in particular, with regard to the measures aimed at the political, social, economic and cultural development of our countries.

6. We reiterate our commitment to the previous Declarations subscribed to by the Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas and we recognize their continuing validity.
7. We reiterate our commitment to continue working for the equity and empowerment of women, particularly those in rural areas. We acknowledge the significant progress made in establishing regional and national plans in support of rural women and we endorse the proposed cooperation fund developed for the implementation of such plans.
8. We continue to strive toward the promotion of better health through preventive measures, the reduction of violence, and more equitable access to health care services. We praise the achievement of those countries that have successfully eliminated measles and other preventable diseases within their borders and encourage the continued efforts of others to meet our common goal of eradicating measles throughout the Americas by the year 2000.
9. We reiterate our support for the promotion of the well-being of women and children. We recognize that many fundamental issues still need attention, including those related to reproductive health\*, the prevention of violence, equitable access to appropriate health services, and comprehensive early childhood development programs. Therefore, our themes for this year's conference are: "A Healthy Start: Investing in Children 0 to 6" and "Women's Health."
10. We declare our firm intention to continue to raise awareness and mobilize public support in our societies on behalf of effective local initiatives to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS, particularly among women, adolescents, and children.
11. We support the inalienable, immutable and universally recognized rights of children to receive love, protection and understanding from their parents and to develop spiritually and socially, independently of cultural and political circumstances.
12. We declare our firm commitment to support programs which improve the accessibility and quality of perinatal care services by raising public awareness, training health care providers, strengthening community participation, and taking actions to increase collaboration and mobilization of public opinion on these matters.

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\* Guatemala states that the expression "reproductive health", according to its legislation, should be understood as "comprehensive health".

13. We are conscious that all children have the right to a name and nationality through birth registration. Therefore, we declare our firm support for the strengthening of systems which guarantee full, timely, accessible and accurate registration of children.
14. We support all efforts to reduce mortality and morbidity due to preventable diseases and nutritional deficiencies among children under five years of age.
15. We acknowledge and affirm the need to guarantee the right of children to education and quality educational services. Therefore, we support the development of comprehensive programs for the professional training of early childhood educators and the strengthening of coordination and information networks between educational institutions.
16. We recognize the need to educate children in a culture of peace in order to prevent violence and enable them to grow and flourish with values and principles conducive to the creation of a safe and secure environment.
17. We recognize the invaluable role played by regional and national non-governmental organizations and international co-operation agencies in supporting and facilitating the implementation of the initiatives set forth in this Declaration and we extend to them our sincere gratitude.
18. We express our gratitude to the spouse of the Prime Minister of Canada, Mrs. Aline Chrétien, and to the people and the Government of Canada, for the kind hospitality extended during our stay.
19. We accept the offer of the spouse of the President of Haiti, Mrs. Géri Benoît-Préval, to host in her country the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas.

This Declaration is signed in four original languages: English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese in the City of Ottawa on October 1, 1999.





# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

October 6, 1999

(5:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 217

## CHAN TO TAKE PART IN SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM OCTOBER 7 TO 8

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan will attend the Post-Forum Dialogue of South Pacific Nations in Koror, Palau on October 7 and 8.

"This annual dialogue is a valuable opportunity for Canada to strengthen understanding and build consensus around issues of importance to all Pacific nations," Mr. Chan said. "We all share an interest in fostering sustainable development, economic progress and regional stability."

Mr. Chan will report on the UN Security Council initiatives Canada has advanced since it began its two-year term as a non-permanent member in early 1999, particularly on Canada's planned follow-up of the Secretary-General's report on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict.

Secretary of State Chan will also promote signature of the Anti-Personnel Mine Convention by seven of the 16 member countries, and ratification of the Convention by the 3 signatories who have yet to do so. In addition, Mr. Chan will urge ratification of the International Criminal Court statute, as well as of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty by Forum members who have not yet done so.

This will be the fourth time Mr. Chan has attended a South Pacific Forum. The Forum will take place this year from October 1 to 8. The member countries are Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Samoa.

The South Pacific Forum is a gathering of the heads of government of 16 independent and self-governing states. Its objective is to foster and promote Pacific regional co-operation, particularly on economic and development and trade matters.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

October 7, 1999

(12:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 218

## AXWORTHY LAUDS DE BEERS POLICY CHANGE ON ANGOLA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today applauded the decision by De Beers to place an embargo on the purchase of all diamonds from Angola by its buying offices around the world. One exception to the embargo — a contractual obligation on the part of De Beers to purchase the production emanating from a joint venture between the Angolan government and an Australian mining company — is not expected to have any bearing on the sanctions regime.

De Beers, a dominant diamond mining and marketing company, has undertaken this action in support of UN measures intended to deny sources of funding to UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), which has been waging a war of insurgency for more than 30 years.

"I am very pleased with this policy announcement by De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited. Canada, as Chair of the UN Security Council Angola Sanctions Committee, is seeking to bring about adherence to UN sanctions against UNITA in order to create the conditions for a resumption of negotiations," said Minister Axworthy. "Co-operative efforts such as this one, when carried through, will have a significant impact on making the UN sanctions effective. I hope that others in the diamond industry will follow the lead of De Beers in offering support to the work of the Sanctions Committee."

Canada's Permanent Representative to the UN, Robert Fowler, has undertaken visits to Central and Southern Africa and Europe to increase awareness of, and compliance with, the sanctions regime. Under Canada's chairmanship, the Sanctions Committee has also established two expert panels at the UN to collect information on the sources and methods of violations of sanctions regimes, and to recommend measures both to end those violations and to improve the implementation of sanctions.

"The implementation of sanctions is the *raison d'être* of the Sanctions Committee. It is Canada's aim to develop tougher measures to constrain the trade in arms, diamonds and other resources, thereby making it more difficult for UNITA to wage war," added Minister Axworthy. "It is time to tackle the new war economy, where a direct relationship exists between certain illicit businesses, corrupt officials, mercenaries and warlords. In



Angola, that relationship perpetuates misery, conflict and the victimization of innocent people."

De Beers reaffirmed its commitment to co-operate with the UN Security Council Angola Sanctions Committee. The UN sanctions against UNITA are intended to foster the conditions for a resumption of political dialogue that would lead to a durable resolution to the conflict in Angola; one of the longest-running conflicts in the world, with more than one million people killed and many more displaced.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

October 7, 1999

(4:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 219

## MINISTER PETTIGREW EXPRESSES SATISFACTION AFTER MEETING WITH HIS PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COUNTERPARTS

International Trade Minister, Pierre Pettigrew, met today in Toronto with his provincial and territorial colleagues to discuss a range of international trade issues.

"Trade is the main engine of our economic growth, which in turn enhances the development of Canadian social and cultural values," said Mr Pettigrew. "This meeting is one in a series of consultations that the Government of Canada has undertaken with the provinces, territories and relevant business sectors. It bears witness to the good will of all parties, and their desire to work as a team in developing and implementing Canada's international trade policies, taking into consideration the interests of all Canadians."

The discussions dealt with, among other things, regional and pan-Canadian priorities in anticipation of the forthcoming meeting of trade ministers of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), to be held in Toronto on November 3 and 4, and the Conference of Ministers of the World Trade Organization, taking place in Seattle, November 30 to December 3.

"By working together, we will be able to take full advantage of the ninth round of multilateral trade talks that begins soon," said Mr. Pettigrew. He also expressed his willingness to work closely with his provincial and territorial colleagues to ensure that there is a good understanding of each government's priorities. "Our primary goal will be to strengthen the international trade system on the basis of rules that offer special benefits to middle powers like Canada," added the Minister.

Discussion also focussed on the promotion of international trade and foreign investment. "It is largely on account of Canada's vigorous campaign to promote foreign exports and investment that 40 percent of our GNP today consists of exports, the highest among the G-7 countries. This major contribution of exports to Canada's economy favours not only job creation, but also helps support social programs," said Mr. Pettigrew.





Federal-provincial-territorial meetings on international trade are designed primarily to safeguard the economic, social and cultural interests of all Canadians.

While indicating his commitment to helping Canadian exporters increase their trade, Mr. Pettigrew said that the social dimensions of globalization must be understood and managed better. "We must work together to put a human face on globalization," the Minister said.

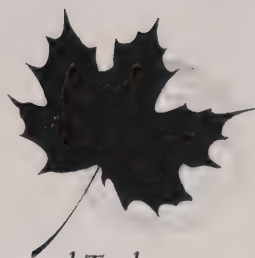
The last meeting took place last February.

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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International Trade  
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# News Release

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Government  
Canada

October 8, 1999

(9:15 a.m. EDT)

No. 220

## APPOINTMENT OF NEW SECRETARY TO THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT SECRETARIAT

The Minister for International Trade, Pierre Pettigrew, today announced the appointment of Françoise Raynald as the new Secretary to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Secretariat, Canadian Section.

Mr. Raynald has been involved in international affairs since 1989. He has most recently been a consultant in international affairs and environmental studies for a number of individuals and organizations, including the Development Centre of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris. From 1989 to 1994, he participated as Special Advisor to the Quebec Minister for International Affairs in the negotiations on NAFTA and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), as well as in the supervision of the settlement of trade disputes with the United States and the European Union. Mr. Raynald holds a Ph.D. from the Graduate School of the City University of New York, as well as an M.Sc. from the University of Montreal.

The NAFTA Secretariat is an administrative body composed of Canadian, American and Mexican national sections. The national sections are located in Ottawa, Washington and Mexico City, headed by appointees from each country.

The Secretariat provides administrative assistance for panels and committees established under Chapters 14 (financial services), 19 (antidumping and countervailing duty) and 20 (general dispute settlement provisions) of NAFTA, and has certain responsibilities related to Chapter 11 (investment). Each national section maintains a court-like registry relating to panel, committee and tribunal proceedings.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:



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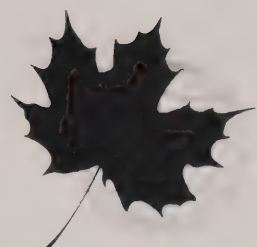
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# News Release

  
International Trade  
Commerce international

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

October 8, 1999

(9:15 a.m. EDT)

No. 221

## APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Minister for International Trade, Pierre Pettigrew, today announced the appointment of Dennis Wood to the Board of Directors of the Export Development Corporation (EDC), and the reappointment of Rayburn Doucett.

Mr. Wood is Chair of C-MAC Industries Inc., a world leader in the manufacturing of state-of-the-art electronics, based in Montreal. He serves on the boards of directors of several organizations, including the University of Sherbrooke Foundation and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, and is a Member of the Order of Canada.

Mr. Doucett was a member of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly from 1970 to 1995, and served as New Brunswick's Minister of Commerce and Technology and as Minister to the New Brunswick Regional Development Corporation. From 1987 to 1991, he was Chair of the New Brunswick Electric Power Corporation while continuing to operate his own furniture business. Currently, he is President of Crosswaters Trade Brokers Ltd., a consulting and marketing firm.

The EDC is a Crown corporation that operates as a commercial financial institution and, since 1944, has helped Canadian businesses grow and prosper through exports and international investment. EDC's trade finance solutions help exporters compete in more than 200 countries, including higher-risk and emerging markets.

In 1998, the EDC supported \$34.8 billion in sales and foreign investment by Canadian exporters, exceeding virtually all of its performance targets.

The appointments are effective immediately.

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

October 8, 1999

(12:30 p.m. EDT)

No. 222

## CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES RESOLVE DIFFERENCES OVER INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN ARMS REGULATIONS

Following a meeting today between Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and President Bill Clinton, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced that an agreement-in-principle has been reached on the main elements required to resolve problems resulting from recent changes in the U.S. International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITARs).

"I am pleased that this agreement has been reached," said Minister Axworthy. "It will serve to maintain the close bilateral defence relationship we have had with the United States for many years. This success will enhance our co-operation in addressing broader security concerns."

In view of the complexity of the issue involved and the intensive negotiations required, there was an additional time beyond the initial 120-day period that was required to complete the task. This agreement will fulfill the commitment made by Mr. Axworthy and Mrs. Albright when they met on April 27, 1999, to ensure that our joint objectives will be reached in a mutually satisfactory way and ensure that the ITARs will be implemented in such a way as to mitigate the effects on the North American defence and aerospace industry.

The resolution was reached after several weeks of intensive bilateral consultations and negotiations between Canada and United States government officials, including several discussions between Minister Axworthy and U.S. Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright.

This agreement aims to preserve the traditional bilateral licence-free access to defence and aerospace technology between the two countries and to facilitate the continued exchange of technical data between our respective industries. Canada and the United States will proceed immediately to resolve remaining details with a view to implement the necessary regulatory changes.



The Joint Statement on Defence Export Controls and North American Defence Industrial Base is attached.

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**JOINT STATEMENT BY**  
**CANADA'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER LLOYD AXWORTHY**  
**AND U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT**  
**ON**  
**DEFENCE EXPORT CONTROLS AND**  
**NORTH AMERICAN DEFENCE INDUSTRIAL BASE**

Since April, our two governments have engaged in extensive consultations to address our mutual security interest in a strong North American perimeter for defence export controls. We share a common commitment to protect against illegal retransfers of controlled U.S. and Canadian defence technology from North America. We also share a very strong commitment to maintaining the unique, integrated North American defence industrial base which has served both our defence and security interests so well since WWII. We have reached substantial agreement in principle to implement steps that will allow our two countries to advance both objectives.

We have worked to ensure that the defence trade control regulations, practices and enforcement of both nations continue to provide harmonized control of defence technologies both nations require to be controlled.

- Canada has proposed a regulatory approach that would strengthen its own defence export controls, similar to the U.S. licensing controls under its International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR). Under this regulatory approach, Canada would control all items on the U.S. Munitions List.
- The U.S. will revise its own defence trade control regulations to permit the export to Canada of most defence technology without a license. In fact, should U.S. defence trade control concerns be fully met by Canada, the U.S. is prepared to reinstate many of the provisions affected by its April 12 ITAR amendment and, in some cases, enhance the Canadian exemption to permit additional exports without a licence, beyond those impacted by its April 12 ITAR amendment.

In this manner, our two governments believe they will successfully continue to protect the integrity of the North American defence perimeter while strengthening the North American defence industrial base.

Agreement in principle has been reached on most issues under negotiation. Expert-level work is continuing in order to resolve the key details that remain, in an expeditious manner. Both our governments are committed to reaching full agreement, consistent with our respective national laws and policies.



# News Release

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October 8, 1999

(5:50 p.m. EST)

No. 223

## CHAN WELCOMES NEPALESE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today welcomed the visit of Govinda Raj Joshi, Minister for Water Resources of the Kingdom of Nepal, on a working visit to Canada from October 11 to 15.

Minister Joshi will examine Canada's experience in managing shared water resources and seek a better appreciation of Canadian engineering and technological capabilities in the hydro-electric power sector. The visit will also serve to strengthen relations between Nepal and Canada.

"I look forward to meeting Minister Joshi in Ottawa on October 14," Mr. Chan said. "I want to discuss recent political, economic and social developments in Nepal, the new government's plans for developing Nepal to its full potential, and Nepal's perception of its present and future role among the countries of South Asia. I shall also explore the potential for increased Canadian trade with and investment in Nepal."

Since 1978, the bilateral development assistance program of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has been instrumental in increasing Nepal's ability to manage its water and energy resources in an environmentally sound manner. In particular, Canada has worked to strengthen the institutional capacity of Nepal's Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS) to develop and co-ordinate water and energy policies.

Minister Joshi was appointed to the water resources portfolio in May 1999. A technical team from the WECS will accompany Minister Joshi and will remain in Canada for a two-week training program organized by CIDA. The Minister's delegation will visit Toronto October 11 and 12, Niagara Falls October 13, Ottawa October 14 and Montreal October 15.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

October 13, 1999

(4:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 224

## CANADA DEPLORES PAKISTANI COUP AND URGES RAPID RESTORATION OF CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today deplored the military coup in Pakistan.

"Canada deplores this action by Pakistan's military," said Mr. Axworthy. "The unconstitutional overthrow of Pakistan's democratically elected government is unacceptable, and we call on General Musharraf to immediately restore democracy."

Minister Axworthy announced that he has been invited to a Special Meeting of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG), to be held in London on Monday, October 18. The meeting was called earlier today by Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Emeka Anyaoku.

"Clearly, the coup calls into question Pakistan's participation in Commonwealth meetings, including the upcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting," said the Minister. "It contravenes the Harare Principles, which enshrine democracy as the fundamental political value of the organization. As Canada's CMAG representative, I will encourage actions that lead to the early restoration of democracy in Pakistan."

"Canada is concerned about the instability that this action imposes on the already fragile regional peace and security situation," said Mr. Chan.

On October 12, 1999, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade updated its Travel Information Report for Pakistan. The Report advises of the coup, informs travellers of the closure of major airports and suggests that travel arrangements should be reconfirmed. It also recommends that the approximately 1300 Canadians registered in Pakistan stay indoors and monitor English language news broadcasts.

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

October 14, 1999

(12:50 p.m. EDT)

No. 225

## AXWORTHY REGRETS DECISION BY U.S. SENATE NOT TO RATIFY COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed regret at the failure of the United States Senate to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The Treaty fell 19 votes short of the 67 required for ratification, with only 48 Senators voting in favour, 51 against, and one abstaining.

"A world accustomed to U.S. leadership in the cause for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament can only be deeply disturbed by this turn of events, which will be welcomed by those who remain uncommitted to that cause," said Mr. Axworthy.

Canada has urged all countries who have yet to ratify the CTBT — including the United States — to do so as soon as possible. This was the main message of last week's Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, where Canada and 90 other states, which have signed or ratified the Treaty, affirmed their commitment to achieve its early entry into force.

"I am convinced that Canada, the United States, and the rest of the world, will be much more secure with the CTBT than without it," said Mr. Axworthy. "And I will continue to work to achieve the Treaty's entry into force as soon as possible. I welcome the Administration's commitment to continue its moratorium on nuclear testing, and hope the U.S. Senate will reconsider its decision on the CTBT in the near future."

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was negotiated during the Conference on Disarmament and opened for signature on September 24, 1996. Under the Treaty, signatories are obliged "not to carry out any nuclear test explosion or any other nuclear explosion, and to prohibit any such nuclear test explosion at any place under its jurisdiction or control." The CTBT recognizes that halting all nuclear test explosions is an effective measure for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, as it constrains the development and improvement of nuclear weapons.



Article XIV of the CTBT stipulates that it will enter into force only when ratified by the 44 states possessing nuclear technology. To date, 26 of the 44 states have ratified the Treaty; three — India, Pakistan and North Korea — have not yet signed. U.S. ratification is among the 18 remaining ratifications needed for the CTBT to enter into force. Canada, one of the Article XIV nations, deposited its article of ratification with the United Nations last December.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

October 17, 1999

(2:50 p.m. EDT)

No. 226

## KILGOUR DISCUSSES HOSTAGE CRISIS WITH VICE FOREIGN MINISTER OF NICARAGUA

David Kilgour, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa), during a telephone conversation earlier today, received assurances from the Vice Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, H.E. Guillermo Arguello Possy, that the safety and well-being of the hostages kidnapped earlier this month remains the first priority of the Government of Nicaragua. The Vice Foreign Minister assured Mr. Kilgour that the President of Nicaragua fully supports this approach. Two hostages, including a Canadian, Manley Guarducci, were kidnapped from a mine site near the town of Bonanza in north-central Nicaragua.

Mr. Kilgour expressed the appreciation of the Government of Canada for the "constructive and responsible manner" in which the Government of Nicaragua has sought a peaceful resolution to the kidnapping. He emphasized that the "safety and security and early release of both hostages must remain the first priority of the Government of Nicaragua." He added that Canada was grateful for the support of the President of Nicaragua for this approach.

Recent press reports in Nicaragua suggested that some members of the Government of Nicaragua were frustrated with the slow pace of the negotiations and wanted more forceful action taken. Mr. Kilgour requested that the Vice Foreign Minister convey to the President of Nicaragua and to other members of the Nicaraguan government Canada's concern with such statements and the need to ensure that the safety and security of the hostages remains as the first priority. It is the view of Canada that the continuation of the existing dialogue process has every prospect of leading to the safe and early return of the hostages.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

October 21, 1999

(9:00 a.m. EDT)

No. 227

## CANADA REOPENS EMBASSY IN BELGRADE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the reopening of Canada's embassy in Belgrade, effective immediately. The embassy suspended operations on March 23, 1999, just prior to the NATO air campaign against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY).

The Canadian embassy will operate at a reduced level of representation and staff. It will be headed by Ms. Angela Bogdan, who will be designated *Chargé d'Affaires ad interim*. Canada will not send an ambassador to Belgrade while the current political situation prevails. The priority of the embassy will be to assess the political situation in the FRY and to promote reforms and democratic changes in that country. Visa services will be provided from the Canadian embassy in Vienna.

"Canada has no quarrel with the people of Yugoslavia and we hope to maintain bridges with that country," said Minister Axworthy. "However, we will not resume a normal bilateral relationship with Yugoslavia as long as the country is governed by indicted war criminals." The Minister also expressed serious concern over the Yugoslav government's recent use of force against peaceful demonstrators.

Canada had solid ties of friendship with Yugoslavia until the leadership of the country espoused ultranationalism and engaged in a series of destructive conflicts in the 1990s. Canada has a large and vibrant community of Serbian origin.

We look forward to seeing the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia take its place in the international family of nations under a leadership which is committed to the rule of law, human rights and international standards of behaviour. Canada will not provide reconstruction assistance to the FRY as long as the current regime is in place. However, Canada will provide humanitarian assistance to help the people of Yugoslavia during a difficult time. One of the priorities of the embassy will be to assess the humanitarian situation in that country and to advise the Canadian government on the best ways to provide assistance.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

October 21, 1999

(3:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 228

## VISIT TO CANADA OF THE ISRAELI MINISTER OF JUSTICE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the visit to Canada of the Minister of Justice of the State of Israel, Yossi Beilin, on October 24 and 25.

The two Ministers will review the state of the Middle East peace process in light of the recent developments following the signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum in early September.

"A positive atmosphere has taken hold in the Middle East since the election of the Barak Government," Mr. Axworthy said. "We fully support the efforts of Israel and the Palestinians to reach a final status agreement and actively promote the peace process through our role as the Chair of the Refugee Working Group."

During his visit Minister Beilin will also take part in the signing of a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty between Canada and Israel. The Treaty is designed to provide for co-operation between police and prosecutors in Canada and Israel in criminal matters. It ensures that evidence gathered in Israel can be used in a Canadian court.

While in Ottawa, Minister Beilin will also meet with Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Anne McLellan, as well as Madam Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé, Mr. Justice Charles Doherty Gonthier and Mr. Justice Frank Iacobucci of the Supreme Court of Canada.

- 30 -

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# News Release

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October 22, 1999

(2:55 p.m. EDT)

No. 229

## AXWORTHY CONDEMNS RUSSIAN ATTACKS ON GROZNY

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed Canada's deep regret at recent Russian military actions in Chechnya, which have led to significant losses of life in the civilian population.

He has conveyed his concerns directly to Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, saying he doubts whether these operations are meeting, or can meet, Russia's goals of eradicating terrorism in the North Caucasus. This is the most recent occasion on which Canada has made these concerns known to Russian authorities in Moscow and Ottawa.

"Canada condemns Russia's indiscriminate use of force in urban areas," said Mr. Axworthy. "It has caused civilian deaths this week in the central market of Grozny and elsewhere in Chechnya. Canada remains fully committed to improving the protection of civilians in armed conflict, and the fight against terrorism should never be an excuse for avoidable civilian casualties."

"Canada opposes Russia's current policy of large-scale military operations in Chechnya," added the Minister. "Building peace in the North Caucasus requires sustained measures to promote trust and legitimacy. Russia's current policy stands to increase the danger of terrorism in the region over the long term."

Canada is contributing \$250 000 to support relief efforts in the region through the International Committee of the Red Cross.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

October 22, 1999

(5:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 230

## CANADA ACHIEVES PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS IN UN RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PEACEKEEPING MISSION IN SIERRA LEONE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy applauded the successful inclusion of provisions to protect civilians in United Nations Security Council resolution 1270, approved Friday, establishing the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL).

The peacekeeping mission has been given the mandate to help consolidate peace in Sierra Leone under the provisions of the Lomé peace accord, including the disarmament, demobilization and re-integration into civil society of former rebels. The mission will also work closely with Sierra Leone's Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Human Rights Commission.

"The resolution approved today demonstrates a strong resolve to bring to an end debilitating intra-state conflicts, wherever they cause violence to civilian populations," said Mr. Axworthy. "It reflects the growing recognition that international actions must be motivated above all by a commitment to human security. The well-being of people and their protection from threats to their rights, safety and lives lie at the foundation of our foreign policy."

Mr. Axworthy noted that Security Council members supported Canada's initiative — critical from Canada's perspective — to give UNAMSIL the right, under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, to use force in the protection of civilians and of UN and associated personnel. "UN peacekeepers now have the authority to take the necessary action in the face of threats to civilians," said Mr. Axworthy. "A robust UN presence will give pause to those who would threaten defenceless civilians."

UNAMSIL will relieve much of the burden that has been placed on West African states. In particular, Nigeria, through the Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG), has been endeavouring under UN authority to establish and maintain peace in Sierra Leone. UNAMSIL and ECOMOG will work in close co-operation.





The presence of the UN force will enable Canada to further assist Sierra Leone with the challenges of peacebuilding and reconciliation, and the restoration of democracy. On September 23, Mr. Axworthy announced that \$500 000 from the Peacebuilding and Human Security Program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade would go to support the Truth and Reconciliation and the Human Rights commissions as well as programs for re-integrating war-affected children into the education system. The funds will also assist neutral public information services to increase awareness about the peace accord.

In total, Canada has contributed \$9.5 million in assistance to Sierra Leone since December 1998, and a further \$1 million to ECOMOG.

- 30 -

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# News Release

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October 25, 1999

(4:15 p.m. EDT)

No. 231

## **DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE UN'S FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION VISITS OTTAWA**

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Dr. Jacques Diouf, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has arrived in Ottawa to begin a three-day official visit.

During his visit, Dr. Diouf will take part in numerous meetings including those with Minister Axworthy; Ralph Goodale, Minister of Natural Resources; Lyle Vanclief, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food; and Maria Minna, Minister for International Co-operation.

On October 26 Dr. Diouf will present the Agricola medal to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. The FAO is awarding Mr. Chrétien the Agricola medal in recognition of Canada's outstanding contributions over time to world agriculture and food security.

The FAO was founded in 1945, in Quebec City, with a mandate to tackle the problem of global hunger by raising levels of nutrition and standards of living, increasing agricultural productivity, and improving the conditions of rural populations.

Through its technical and economic programs, Canada provides special support for FAO activities, including :

- genetic resource management and conservation;
- animal disease control and elimination;
- data and documentation systems;
- the role of women in agriculture and rural development;
- food diversity and quality assessment;
- food control and consumer protection; and
- studies, statistical analyses and global forecasts.

Canada also actively supported the formation of the World Food Program (WFP), the UN food aid organization. Canada has been and remains one of the largest donors to the WFP.



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# News Release

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October 26, 1999

(11:00 a.m. EDT)

No. 232

## CANADA ANNOUNCES SUPPORT TO SUDAN PEACE PROCESS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and the Minister for International Co-operation, Maria Minna, today announced several Canadian initiatives to bolster international efforts backing a negotiated settlement to the 43-year civil war in Sudan. Since 1983, the war has caused nearly two million deaths and displaced over four million people.

Mr. Axworthy appointed Senator Lois Wilson as Canada's special envoy to the Sudan Peace Process, where she will lead Canada's participation in the International Partners Forum (IPF) of the Inter Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). Composed of representatives of the governments of the region, IGAD has been mandated by the Organization for African Unity to resolve the conflict in Sudan. The IPF, made up of developed countries and currently chaired by Italy and Norway, focusses international attention on the peace process and provides support.

"The establishment of a general and comprehensive cease-fire in the Sudan, with an effective monitoring mechanism, is an essential part of a negotiated settlement to the conflict," Mr. Axworthy said. "Senator Wilson's appointment as special envoy demonstrates Canada's commitment to helping achieve that end."

Ms. Minna said the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is providing \$300 000 to support the operation of the IGAD Talks Secretariat. This new initiative complements the more than \$100 million for food, medical supplies, seeds and tools provided to victims of the conflict since 1990.

"Humanitarian assistance, while critical to saving lives and relieving misery, cannot alone address the actual causes of the crisis in Sudan," Ms. Minna said. "That is why Canada has now decided as well to provide direct assistance to the peace process itself."

CIDA is also supporting "Track II" efforts of Canadian and Sudanese non-governmental organizations, including Waterloo-based Project Ploughshares, and Montreal-based Alternatives, that are focussing on how civil society initiatives can contribute to peace in Sudan.



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Mr. Axworthy also announced that John Harker, an Ottawa-based specialist in African issues and advisor to the governments of Canada, South Africa and the International Labour Organization, will lead a mission to Sudan to examine allegations about human rights abuses, including the practice of slavery.

Mr. Axworthy will meet next week with Jim Buckee, President and Chief Executive Officer of Talisman Energy Inc., to discuss the Calgary-based company's involvement in an oil development program in southern Sudan. This meeting will be the latest in an ongoing dialogue with Talisman, which is a partner with SUDAPET, the Sudan state oil company, Petronas of Malaysia and the Chinese National Petroleum Company in the Greater Nile Oil Project, which includes a 1600-kilometre pipeline from the oil fields to Port Sudan on the Red Sea.

Canada is deeply concerned about reports of intense fighting in the regions of oil development, and that oil extraction may be contributing to the forced relocation of civilian populations residing in the vicinity of the oil fields. It will view with the gravest concern evidence linking private sector interests to violations of human rights or humanitarian law.

If it becomes evident that oil extraction is exacerbating the conflict in Sudan, or resulting in violations of human rights or humanitarian law, the Government of Canada may consider, if required, economic and trade restrictions such as are authorized by the Export and Import Permits Act, the Special Economic Measures Act, or other instruments. The upcoming assessment mission to Sudan, led by Mr. Harker, will help inform the Government of Canada in their examination of such options.

"Canadians want assurances that the operations of Canadian enterprises are not worsening the conflict or the human rights situation for the Sudanese people," Mr. Axworthy said. "I intend to discuss with the company ways in which it could support a peaceful resolution of the conflict."

Finally, both the Foreign Affairs Minister of Sudan, Mustafa Osman Ismail, and the leader of the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement, John Garang, have been invited to visit Canada for discussions on the peace process. Canada will urge both parties to commit to a meaningful, strengthened and accelerated peace process in the context of the IGAD Declaration of Principles.

Three backgrounders are attached.

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Additional information on Canada's Sudan Policy is available from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

Additional information on CIDA and Sudan is available from the CIDA's Internet site:  
<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca>





## Backgrounder

### CANADA'S SUDAN POLICY

A civil war has raged in Sudan for most of the 43 years since independence in 1956. Although the origins of the conflict are found in the underdevelopment of the south during the colonial period, it is no longer simply north/south in scope. The Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM) — a southern-based movement — has been fighting consecutive governing regimes. It has been joined by armed northern parties opposed to the current governing regime, led by the National Islamic Front (NIF), which seized power in a 1989 coup.

Together they have formed a coalition called the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) that includes all the political parties that existed in the country prior to the 1989 coup, with the exception of the NIF, which retains power. Thus, the war has grown from a southern conflict to a complex crisis that is national in scale. The principal factors now driving the conflict are disparities in the allocation of power, land and resources, the imposition of sectarian laws and the violation of the human rights of Sudan's marginalized people.

As is common in contemporary conflicts, civilians — particularly women and children — are the principal casualties. The human toll arising from war-related causes in Sudan, including famine, is horrific. Nearly two million people, according to the United Nations, have died since 1983. In excess of four million people are internally displaced, dispossessed of their homes and separated from their families.

Despite an ongoing peace process, violations of humanitarian and human rights law occur with both extraordinary frequency and unconscionable brutality, and are well documented in consecutive reports by the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Sudan of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. The use of child soldiers, landmines, abductions and slavery, the bombing of civilian hospitals, and the deliberate targeting of civilians have all been reported.

There are few other parts of the world where human security is so lacking, and where the need for peace and security — precursors to sustainable development — is so pronounced. Canada's commitment to human security, particularly the protection of civilians in armed conflict, provides the basis for its involvement in Sudan and its support for the peace process.

In order to meet this objective, the Government of Canada has developed a comprehensive strategy for Sudan that includes multilateral support to the peace process, restricted engagement with the Government of Sudan, addressing human rights concerns, supporting civil society, and dialogue with the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

## **1. Canadian Multilateral Support to the Sudan Peace Process**

Recognizing that there can be no military solution to Sudan's problems, Canada encourages a negotiated and just resolution to the civil conflict as the only sustainable means of bringing peace, security and well-being to the Sudanese people.

Canada vigorously supports the Inter Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) peace process, chaired by Kenya, including the 1994 Declaration of Principles (DoP) (see attached backgrounder). The DoP establishes that the unity of Sudan must be given priority during negotiations, while acknowledging the right to self-determination of the south and the separation of religion and state. Both the Government of Sudan and the SPLM have accepted the DoP as the basis for negotiations.

Canada commends the decisions taken in July 1999 by the Government of Sudan and the SPLM to recommit themselves to the IGAD peace process, including their support for the establishment of a Talks Secretariat and the appointment of a Special Envoy to facilitate the peace process and allow continuous negotiation between the parties.

Canada renews its appeal for the establishment of a general and comprehensive cease-fire, with an effective monitoring mechanism, as part of the negotiated solution to the conflict and in accordance with the DoP. In the interim, Canada welcomes the recent decision of the Government of Sudan to extend for a further period of three months the cease-fire for all the areas of military operation and the declaration of the SPLM to extend the humanitarian cease-fire within the same period for Bahr el Ghazal and parts of the Upper Nile.

Canada urges the IGAD Ministerial Sub-Committee on the Sudan Conflict to take measures to ensure a comprehensive peace process reflecting the broad national scope of the conflict. Canada encourages all countries in the region to reiterate their support for the IGAD peace process, and for the DoP as the basis for a just peace.

Canada is a core member of the Sudan Committee of the IGAD Partners Forum, currently co-chaired by Italy and Norway, which was established to give donor support to the peace process. Canada supports the work of the Special Envoy, the Talks Secretariat and civil society initiatives. The support provided through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is outlined in the attached backgrounder from CIDA.

In order to facilitate Canadian involvement in, and support of, the peace process, Senator Lois Wilson has been appointed Canada's Special Envoy to the Sudan peace process. Senator Wilson will lead Canadian participation at IGAD Partners Forum meetings and other activities in support of IGAD mediation efforts. She will also advise



the Government of Canada and consult with Canadian NGOs, academics and the private sector on all matters concerning the Sudan peace process.

Until the human rights situation improves significantly, Canada will continue to co-sponsor strong resolutions, at both the General Assembly and the UN Commission on Human Rights, that condemn Sudan for widespread human rights violations. While the documentation reveals more serious violations on the part of the Government of Sudan and parties under their control, the resolutions also identify SPLM responsibility for human rights abuses related to their conduct of the war.

Canada has also co-sponsored a series of UN resolutions calling for unimpeded access to civilians, for their protection, and for the extension of humanitarian cease-fires in order to ensure the safe delivery of emergency supplies to civilians. Canada will examine whether United Nations bodies, including the Security Council, may have an additional supportive role to play in advancing the peace process.

Finally, Canada is undertaking, with other like-minded countries, an assessment of the role, responsibilities and conduct of non-state actors in unstable regions of the world. This includes examination of possible mechanisms through which responsible corporate behaviour might be further promoted and encouraged.

## **2. Restricted Engagement with the Government of Sudan**

Canada recalls that the Sudanese people welcomed the prospect of an opportunity to address a comprehensive resolution of the conflict through a National Constitutional Conference, following the Koka Dam Declaration of 1986. Canada notes that the new constitution that came into force on July 1, 1998, was not born of a national consensus and that it has been rejected by all of the political parties that remain in armed opposition.

A law to regulate a multi-party political system and the succession of power has been inaugurated by the government, and a number of parties opposed to the NIF have registered. However, political parties under the umbrella of the NDA remain in armed opposition and have called for the cancellation of the law and the convening of a National Constitutional Conference. Canada calls upon the Government of Sudan to state clearly its commitment to inclusive and democratic governance.

Canada continues to comply with United Nations Security Council resolution 1054 (1996) calling upon member states to limit their diplomatic links to Sudan. However, Canada has invited both the Foreign Affairs Minister of Sudan, Mustafa Osman Ismail, and the leader of the SPLM (military leader of the NDA), John Garang, to visit Canada for discussions on the peace process. Canada will urge both parties to commit to a

meaningful, strengthened and accelerated peace process in the context of the IGAD DoP.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy strongly reiterated his concerns regarding the conflict and the human rights situation during a meeting with the Sudanese Minister of Foreign Affairs in New York in September 1999.

Ministers Axworthy and Mustafa Ismail also discussed the role of the oil sector in Sudan. As a follow-up to this discussion, Canada requests that the Government of Sudan initiate discussions with the private sector and independent experts regarding ways in which petroleum export revenues can be reserved for humanitarian and development purposes. These revenues should be shared equitably by all regions of Sudan and verified through a formal, independent monitoring system.

Minister Mustafa Ismail agreed to co-operate fully with a Canadian assessment mission to Sudan to examine allegations of slavery and other human rights concerns. Minister Axworthy has asked John Harker to lead an independent and unhindered Canadian mission to Sudan. The mission will consult and co-ordinate with the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Sudan of the UN Commission on Human Rights.

The evolution of Canada's relations with Sudan will be contingent on the commitment of the Sudanese parties to the peace process, democratic development and the improvement of human rights. Canada maintains its 1992 suspension of bilateral development assistance and does not permit sales of military equipment to Sudan.

### **3. Human Rights Concerns**

Canada deplores all violations of human rights in Sudan. The presence of conflict does not justify disrespect for human rights. The Government of Sudan and the armed opposition have an obligation to respect international humanitarian and human rights law. Canada views the deliberate or indiscriminate targeting of civilians as particularly deplorable. Canada will support efforts to end impunity in the conflict. The Government of Canada also views with the utmost concern any activities in Sudan that stand contrary to accepted international human rights law concerning freedom of religion and belief.

Of particular concern to Canada has been the difficulty in ensuring full, unhindered and safe access for humanitarian workers to all civilians affected by the conflict. Canada deplores the killing of humanitarian workers in Sudan earlier this year, which underlines the need to ensure the protection of United Nations and other international and national humanitarian personnel. The Government of Canada also emphasizes the importance, under international humanitarian law, of "humanitarian access" and in this context acknowledges the decision taken by the Government of Sudan to permit UN access to the Nuba mountains. This now needs to be followed up with ongoing humanitarian



access to the Nuba people. Canada will continue to press for full humanitarian access to all civilian populations in Sudan.

#### **4. Private Sector Responsibility in Sudan**

While the Government of Canada supports Canadian participation in the economic development of Africa, it has grave reservations concerning private sector involvement that may heighten tensions or otherwise fuel ongoing conflicts. Canada has consistently discouraged companies from doing business in Sudan and in 1992 suspended all support, including export finance and trade development programs. It has also issued warnings regarding the risks of working in the Sudanese oil fields due to security concerns and the potential danger to employees.

The completion of a 1600-kilometre pipeline from Sudan's oil fields to Port Sudan and current oil development efforts may be a key part of Sudan's post-war economy. Canada has serious concerns that the Greater Nile Oil Project (GNOP) may have a negative impact on the resolution of the conflict. The GNOP is being implemented by a consortium composed of SUDAPET (the Sudan state oil company), Petronas (Malaysia), the Chinese National Petroleum Company, and Talisman Energy of Canada.

The Government of Canada has noted with concern that a number of Canadian and international NGOs, as well as some parties to the Sudan conflict, are arguing strenuously that oil exploitation is exacerbating the conflict and contributing to human rights abuses. It appears ownership of the oil is in dispute, including the benefits derived therefrom, and may, in part, contribute to the civil conflict.

The question of allocation and distribution of oil resources and their benefits must be resolved quickly as oil is now being exported and revenue generated. Agreement on this issue is therefore an essential element in concluding a comprehensive peace in Sudan. Canada recognizes that only an accelerated and sustained movement toward a just peace will allow all Sudanese to enjoy equitably the benefits of this natural resource.

Canada is committed to ensuring that private sector involvement in Sudan does not prolong the conflict in Sudan or fuel related human rights abuses. The private sector has an ethical responsibility to ensure their operations do no harm, but rather contribute to fostering a climate conducive to building a durable and just peace. Canada is therefore seeking assurances from both the Government of Sudan and Canadian oil sector interests (including Talisman Energy) that both international humanitarian and human rights laws are being upheld, and that oil extraction and export is not exacerbating the conflict in Sudan.

Minister Axworthy met with representatives from Talisman Energy in March 1999 to convey his concern regarding Canadian oil sector involvement in Sudan, and to obtain company assurances regarding their activities in that country. Minister Axworthy has invited Jim Buckee, President and Chief Executive Officer of Talisman Energy, to meet with him on November 2. Minister Axworthy will emphasize that Canadian oil companies operating in Sudan must address the concerns raised. In particular, Mr. Axworthy will request that Talisman Energy:

- i. effectively implement the "International Code of Ethics for Canadian Business";
- ii. publicly encourage the Government of Sudan to invite independent experts to investigate the human rights situation in the oil regions in Sudan, with particular attention to allegations of forced removals of populations;
- iii. initiate discussion with the Government of Sudan, and independent experts, on verifiable ways in which petroleum export revenue can be reserved for humanitarian and development purposes and shared equitably by all regions of Sudan;
- iv. publicly urge the Government of Sudan to recommit itself to a meaningful and accelerated peace process in the context of the IGAD DoP;
- v. invite independent expert observers to participate in their discussions with the Government of Sudan regarding the peace process and human rights issues.

The Government of Canada recognizes and strongly supports the serious efforts already made by NGOs to engage constructively with private sector interests operating in Sudan. Canada expects Talisman Energy to respond seriously and constructively to these efforts.

Canada is deeply concerned about reports of intense fighting in the regions of oil development, and that oil extraction may be contributing to the forced relocation of civilian populations residing in the vicinity of the oil fields. It will view with the gravest concern evidence linking private sector interests to violations of human rights or humanitarian law.

If it becomes evident that oil extraction is exacerbating the conflict in Sudan, or resulting in violations of human rights or humanitarian law, the Government of Canada may consider, if required, economic and trade restrictions such as are authorized by the Export and Import Permits Act, the Special Economic Measures Act, or other instruments. The upcoming assessment mission to Sudan, led by Mr. Harker, will help inform the Government of Canada in their examination of such options. It is

acknowledged that these measures are most effective when widely or universally applied.

The Government of Canada also considers that there is merit in creating a climate conducive to negotiations in order to provide the parties with an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to pursuing a just and peaceful resolution to the conflict. Canada will continue to consult with the IGAD Partners Forum and other international partners in considering possible "pressures and incentives" and exploring all avenues to achieve the desired goals of peace and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.





## Backgrounder

### DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

We, Representatives of the Governments of the Republic of the Sudan (hereinafter referred to as the GOS), the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement / Sudan Peoples' Liberation Army and the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement / Sudan Peoples' Liberation Army - United (hereafter referred to as the SPLM / SPLA and SPLM / SPLA - United respectively):

Recalling the previous peace talks between the Government of the Sudan on the one hand, the SPLM / SPLA and SPLM / SPLA - United on the other, namely Addis Ababa in August 1989, Nairobi in December 1989, Abuja in May / July 1992, Abuja in April / May 1993, Nairobi in May 1993, and Frankfurt in January 1992;

Cognisant of the importance of the unique opportunity afforded by the IGADD Peace initiative to reach a negotiated peaceful solution to the conflict in the Sudan;

Concerned by the continued human suffering and misery in the war affected areas;

Hereby agree in the following Declaration of Principles (DoP) that would constitute the basis for resolving the conflict in the Sudan;

1. Any comprehensive resolution of the Sudan conflict requires that all parties to the conflict fully accept and commit themselves to that position that:
  - 1.1. The history and nature of the Sudan conflict demonstrate that a military solution can not bring lasting peace and stability to the country.
  - 1.2. A peaceful and just political solution must be the common objective of the parties to the conflict.
2. The rights of self-determination of the people of South Sudan to determine their future status through a referendum must be affirmed; and
3. Maintaining unity of the Sudan must be given priority by all the parties provided that the following principles are established in the political, legal, economic and social framework of the country:
  - 3.1. Sudan is a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural society. Full recognition and accommodation of these diversities must be affirmed.

- 3.2. Complete political and social equalities of all peoples in the Sudan must be guaranteed by law.
- 3.3. Extensive rights of self-administration on the basis of federation, autonomy, etc., to the various peoples of the Sudan must be affirmed.
- 3.4. A secular and democratic state must be established in the Sudan. Freedom of belief and worship and religious practices shall be guaranteed in full to all Sudanese citizens. State and religion shall be separated. The basis of personal and family laws can be religion and customs.
- 3.5. Appropriate and fair sharing of wealth among the various peoples of the Sudan must be realized.
- 3.6. Human rights as internationally recognized shall form part and parcel of this arrangement and shall be embodied in Constitution.
- 3.7. The Independence of the Judiciary shall be enshrined in the Constitution and laws of the Sudan.
4. In the absence of agreement on the above principles referred to in 3.1 to 3.7 the respective people will have the option to determine their future including independence, through a referendum.
5. An interim arrangement shall be agreed upon, the duration and the tasks of which should be negotiated by the parties.
6. The parties shall negotiate a ceasefire agreement to enter into force as part of the overall settlement of the conflict in the Sudan.

Nairobi, May 20, 1994

## **Backgrounder**

### **THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND SUDAN**

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) suspended government-to-government assistance to Sudan in 1992 due to serious concerns about the human rights record of the Government of Sudan. CIDA has, however, continued to contribute emergency relief — over \$100 million since 1990 — in the form of food aid, critical medical supplies, seeds and tools. This has been channeled to the most vulnerable victims of the conflict — women, children and the elderly — through United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating under the UN's Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) umbrella, as well as through the Red Cross movement. In the past 10 years, the international community as a whole has provided a total of over \$3 billion in emergency relief. Canadian and international NGOs have played a significant role in this effort.

Canada is increasingly dismayed by the enormous cost of continued conflict in Sudan, especially in terms of human suffering but also in terms of the economic and social deprivation it causes throughout the country. The current level of assistance cannot be sustained indefinitely and does not address the root causes of the humanitarian crisis, which can only be solved if there is a resolution to the conflict.

In July 1999, CIDA, in support of DFAIT's objective of revitalizing the peace process, adopted a policy of more active support to the IGAD-sponsored negotiations. CIDA is also supporting the role of civil society in peacebuilding.

Immediately upon official establishment of the IGAD Talks Secretariat for Sudan in July 1999, CIDA announced its intention to provide \$300 000 to support its operation. CIDA staff are also providing advice on its administrative arrangements. The Agency will continue to work closely with DFAIT, the new Canadian Special Envoy and our international partners in support of this regional initiative to end the conflict.

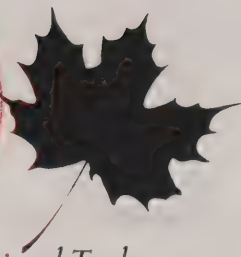
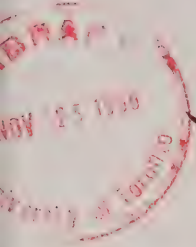
NGOs also play an important role in advocating on behalf of the Sudanese population and, by so doing, raising international awareness of the devastating human impact of the Sudan conflict. Canada strongly supports an enhanced role for civil society in promoting reconciliation and peace.

In this context, CIDA supports "Track II" initiatives led by Canadian, regional and Sudanese NGOs. These initiatives, which are complementary to the IGAD process, facilitate civil society engagement with the official peace process, promote dialogue among the diverse elements of Sudanese civil society and support initiatives for community reconciliation as a basis for sustainable peace. The Agency's Peacebuilding Fund currently supports such efforts by the Waterloo-based Project Ploughshares and

the Montreal-based NGO, Alternatives. CIDA also funds a regional organization, the InterAfrica Group, which organizes expert support for, and civil society input into, the IGAD process.

The Agency is open to additional programming in support of the search for peace in Sudan, given that peace is a precondition for progress in solving the humanitarian crisis, and a necessary condition for socio-economic development and enjoyment of democratic rights for all the people of Sudan.





Government  
Publications

# News Release

International Trade

Commerce international

October 28, 1999

[www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca](http://www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca)

(2:00 p.m. EDT)

No. 233

## CANADA TO HOST FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS MINISTERIAL MEETING

International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew will host the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Ministerial Meeting in Toronto on November 3 and 4. The meeting is the culmination of Canada's 18 months as Chair of the FTAA process.

"The FTAA is an unprecedented opportunity to unite the economies of the western hemisphere into a single free trade group, which would stimulate job creation and growth throughout the region," said Minister Pettigrew. "These negotiations hold the potential for creating the world's largest free trade area, with 800 million people and a combined GDP of almost \$15 trillion."

The FTAA is a comprehensive free trade negotiation among the 34 democratic nations of the western hemisphere. Its aim is to reach a comprehensive, state-of-the-art agreement consistent with World Trade Organization agreements. It is also one element of a wide-ranging agenda of co-operation under the Summit of the Americas process to address issues voiced by individuals and civil society groups such as poverty, living standards, education, democratic values and institutions.

"We must remember that our exporters are not just dealing in goods and services, they are also exporting Canadian values," said Mr. Pettigrew. "We need to strengthen the the hemisphere's social foundation to increase economic activity, including trade."

In addition to putting in place the institutional infrastructure to manage such complex negotiations, substantial progress has already been made in the area of business facilitation during Canada's chairmanship of the FTAA negotiations. At the Toronto meeting, besides reviewing progress and next steps, ministers will consider a package of measures to simplify customs clearances in the hemisphere, and to make government rules and regulations governing trade and investment more accessible to the public.

Minister Pettigrew will also attend several events related to the FTAA while in Toronto. On November 1, he will open the Americas Business Forum (ABF), a private sector Forum that will bring together more than 500 business leaders and senior government



Department of Foreign Affairs  
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et du Commerce international

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officials from 34 countries in the hemisphere for a wide-ranging exchange of ideas on hemispheric trade and the development of the FTAA.

Minister Pettigrew will then meet with a hemispheric coalition of NGOs on November 3 at the Americas Civil Society Forum, an event that is supported by the Government of Canada and being held in parallel with the FTAA meeting. The Forum will focus on recommendations reflecting concerns and perspectives on the socio-economic impact of hemispheric trade and the FTAA process.

"Canada is committed to conducting the FTAA negotiations as openly as possible," said Mr. Pettigrew. "Canada has also been the driving force in establishing a process to seek input from civil society in the FTAA process."

The FTAA Trade Ministers Meeting and the ABF are part of a series of hemispheric events being held in Canada over the next two years. Canada hosted the Pan American Games this past summer in Winnipeg, and the Conference of First Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas in Ottawa last month. The city of Windsor will host the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in June 2000, marking Canada's tenth anniversary as an OAS member, and Quebec City will host the third Summit of the Americas in 2001.

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

October 29, 1999

(3:40 p.m. EDT)

No. 234

## GREEK MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that his Greek counterpart, George A. Papandreou, will make an official visit to Canada from October 31 to November 3. In addition to meeting with Minister Axworthy, Mr. Papandreou will meet with the leaders of the Hellenic-Canadian communities of Ontario and Quebec, in Toronto and Montreal, respectively.

"With more than 250 000 Canadians of Greek origin in Canada, the ties that bind Canada and Greece grow stronger with each generation," said Mr. Axworthy. "This visit will give us an opportunity to meet face-to-face again and pursue our dialogue on issues that concern the citizens in both our countries, especially with respect to peace and security in Europe."

Ministers Axworthy and Papandreou will meet on November 3 to discuss bilateral relations and common priorities within multilateral fora. They will also sign a bilateral extradition treaty and a memorandum of understanding in sport.

Mr. Axworthy met with Mr. Papandreou in Moscow on April 29, at the height of the Kosovo crisis, and committed Canadian support, through assistance to Canadian non-governmental organizations, to a Greek/Swiss/Russian humanitarian aid program for the people of Kosovo.

The son of the previous Prime Minister of Greece, the late Andreas Papandreou, George Papandreou lived and studied in Canada during his youth, graduating from Toronto's King City Secondary School in 1970. At the time, his father, who had not yet become Prime Minister, was in exile in Canada during Greece's "regime of the colonels", and taught at York University.

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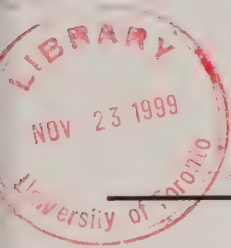


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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

October 29, 1999

(3:45 p.m. EDT)

No. 235

## BANGLADESHI FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT CANADA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, Abdus Samad Azad, will visit Canada from November 1 to 4.

"This is a timely visit because it comes just as Bangladesh prepares to join us on the UN Security Council (UNSC) in January 2000," said Mr. Axworthy. "Our meetings with Foreign Minister Azad will provide an excellent opportunity to discuss bilateral relations, the human security issues that we will address at the UNSC, as well as developments in South Asia."

"I led a trade mission to Bangladesh last May and was greatly impressed by the strength of the Bangladeshi business sector," said Mr. Chan. "Bangladesh is already one of our fastest growing markets in Asia and we are committed to enhancing our trade relations with this dynamic economy." Mr. Chan noted that Foreign Minister Azad's visit follows those of several senior Bangladeshi officials, including the Parliamentary Speaker and the Secretary of Energy, over the course of this year.

Mr. Azad's visit will begin in Ottawa, where he will meet with Minister Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan; Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna; the Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, Peter Milliken; and the Leader of the Official Opposition, Preston Manning.

On November 3 Minister Azad will travel to Toronto where he is scheduled to meet with business representatives and members of the Bangladeshi Canadian community. The following day, Mr. Azad has a private program in southern Ontario before departing from Canada.

This is the first bilateral visit to Canada by a Bangladeshi Foreign Minister.

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# News Release

Government  
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www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

October 31, 1999

(11:15 a.m. EST)

No. 236

## AXWORTHY EXPRESSES SADNESS OVER DEATH OF AMBASSADOR VINCENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed his sadness over the death of Anthony G. Vincent, Canada's Ambassador to Spain. The Minister offered, on behalf of the Government of Canada, his sympathy to the members of Mr. Vincent's family, particularly his widow Lucie Houle and their daughter, on their loss.

"Canada has lost a dedicated public servant who made an outstanding contribution to this country's place in the world," said Mr. Axworthy. "His distinguished service to Canadians will long be remembered. His consummate professionalism won him and this country respect at home and abroad."

Ambassador Vincent was Canada's representative in Spain since 1997. In his previous post as ambassador to Peru and Bolivia from 1994, he came to prominent attention internationally as an intermediary between the Government of Peru and Tupac Amaru terrorists who had seized hostages, including initially Mr. Vincent, at a reception for about 700 people in the Japanese embassy in Lima. His efforts helped win the release of many hostages and contributed to the safety of the remaining 72, all but one of whom were eventually freed by Peruvian commandos.

Mr. Vincent joined the Department of External Affairs in 1969 and served abroad in The Hague, New Delhi and in Dhaka as High Commissioner with concurrent accreditation as ambassador to Burma from 1985 to 1989. In Ottawa, he had a wide range of assignments, including director of the South and Southeast Asia Relations Division from 1983 to 1985, and director of the security division from 1988 to 1992.

- 30 -

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# News Release

Government  
Publications

November 1, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EST)

No. 237

## CANADA ANNOUNCES \$100 MILLION IN NEW INITIATIVES FOR KOSOVO AND THE BALKANS

The Government of Canada today announced a package of up to \$100 million of initiatives in support of the rehabilitation of Kosovo and the Balkans in 1999 and 2000. The new programs initiated by Canada will focus on internationally recognized areas of Canadian expertise such as community-based assistance, humanitarian aid, good governance, democratization, human rights, mine action, peacekeeping training, support for war crimes investigations, police peace support and police training to fight organized crime.

Since the beginning of the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, Canada has contributed significantly to the efforts for a sustainable peace by encouraging reconciliation, promoting democracy, and supporting efforts to build multi-ethnic societies in the region.

The initiatives announced by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Department of National Defence and the Solicitor General of Canada will assist the peace process in the region through the provision of human and financial resources. A significant portion of the package will be devoted to supporting the efforts of Canadian and international organizations involved in the peace process and in the delivery of assistance. These include the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

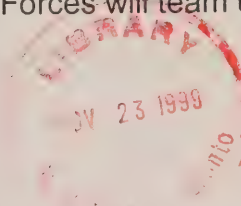
The Canadian government is also opening an office in Pristina to co-ordinate the implementation of the initiatives announced today and to liaise with international organizations involved in implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1244, which established an international framework for peace efforts in Kosovo including UNMIK and KFOR.

Included in the new initiatives is the Canadian Regional Training and Support Project which will provide language and peacekeeping training, as well as specialized police training. In addition, CIDA and the Canadian Forces will team up to provide



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humanitarian aid, including education, primary health care, school repairs, the distribution of roofing kits, de-mining training and winterization packages.

Many of the new initiatives support the objectives of the South Eastern Europe Stability Pact, a process launched in July 1999. The Pact is designed to promote stability through regional economic development by integrating the Balkan region economically, socially and politically with the rest of Europe, as well as with Euro-Atlantic institutions.

Today's package is in addition to commitments that were made to the region earlier this year, including Citizenship and Immigration Canada's refugee program providing safe haven to over 7000 Kosovar refugees. The package will strengthen Canada's ongoing technical assistance and training programs in the Balkans.

The funding committed by the Government demonstrates that Canada will continue to support the rehabilitation of Kosovo and peacebuilding in the region.

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Media Liaison Office  
Department of National Defence  
(613) 996-2353

RCMP Media Relations Unit  
(613) 993-2999

Further information about initiatives announced today may be obtained at the following Web sites:

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> (Department of Foreign Affairs & International Trade)

<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca> (Canadian International Development Agency)

<http://www.dnd.ca> (Department of National Defence)

<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca> (Royal Canadian Mounted Police)

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

November 3, 1999

(4:15 p.m. EST)

No. 238

## TWO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS HIGHLIGHT PAPANDREOU VISIT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada and Greece have signed two new agreements: a bilateral extradition treaty and a memorandum of understanding in sport. Both agreements were signed by Minister Axworthy and his Greek counterpart, George A. Papandreou, whose official visit to Canada ends today.

The Extradition Treaty between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Hellenic Republic replaces a treaty that dates back to 1912. Under the new treaty, extradition proceedings between both countries will be facilitated.

"This treaty complements the Canada-Greece Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, signed last year in Athens. The signing of the Extradition Treaty constitutes a concrete and constructive step toward enhanced co-operation between our countries in the fight against transnational crime," said Mr. Axworthy.

The Memorandum of Understanding in Sport between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Hellenic Republic provides a framework for co-operation in sectors such as anti-doping, sport for athletes with disabilities, women in sport and high-performance sport. It was signed in the presence of Denis Coderre, Secretary of State (Amateur Sport).

"With the 2004 summer Olympics being held in Athens, further co-operation between Canada and Greece in the field of sport is both timely and welcome," said Mr. Axworthy.

Ministers Axworthy and Papandreou met today to discuss bilateral relations and common priorities within multilateral forums.

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

November 3, 1999

(5:00 p.m. EST)

No. 239

## AXWORTHY AND UN REPRESENTATIVE DENG DISCUSS PLIGHT OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will meet with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons, Francis Deng, Thursday in Ottawa, to discuss the plight of people who are made "refugees" in their own homelands.

"Mr. Deng is an important advocate for an especially vulnerable population, raising awareness of the condition and predicament of internally displaced persons worldwide," Mr. Axworthy said. "Many of the victims of conflicts, famines, and other disasters are uprooted from their homes but remain confined within the borders of their own countries. Unlike refugees, the internally displaced have no established system of legal and physical protection. The international community needs to increase its capacity to help them."

Mr. Deng will meet with the Minister following separate round tables with Canadian government officials and non-governmental organizations interested in issues affecting internally displaced persons. Minister Axworthy said that Canada is interested in strongly supporting the Special Representative's work. "The challenges facing the internally displaced are central to our efforts to advance the protection of civilians in armed conflict and to enhance human security," Mr. Axworthy said.

The Minister will seek Mr. Deng's assessment of the situation currently faced by displaced persons in Sudan, where a long-standing conflict has forced more than 4 million people from their homes.

Mr. Deng is a former Sudanese ambassador to Canada and was a diplomat for his country until 1983. He is a doctoral graduate of Yale Law School and has had a distinguished academic career in such major organizations as the Woodrow Wilson International Centre and the Brookings Institution. He has written or edited over 20 books in the fields of law, conflict resolution, human rights, anthropology, folklore,



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history and politics, as well as two novels. He was named the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative on Internally Displaced Persons in 1992.

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November 4, 1999

(4:05 p.m. EST)

No. 240

## CANADA WELCOMES RELEASE OF CANADIAN HOSTAGE IN NICARAGUA

Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour today welcomed the release, yesterday, of Manley Guarducci and Salvador Orlando Rocha Sanchez, who had been held captive in Nicaragua by a rebel group for more than one month. Both men were abducted on September 30 by the *Frente Unido Andrés Castro*. A Canadian citizen, Mr. Guarducci was working in Nicaragua for the Hemconic Nicaragua mining company. Mr. Sanchez is a member of the Nicaraguan army.

Mr. Kilgour commended the patience and co-operation of the Government of Nicaragua in dealing with this very difficult matter. "The Government of Nicaragua displayed outstanding humanitarian concern for the well-being of the hostages," added Mr. Kilgour.

In deploring kidnappings by rebel groups, Mr. Kilgour said, "Canada has been active in seeking greater international co-operation and action in dealing with this growing problem and we intend to further energize our efforts in the months ahead."

Secretary of State Kilgour attributed the release of the hostages to the successful co-operation between Canadian officials in San José and Managua, the Nicaraguan authorities, the Hemconic Nicaragua company, and local organizations that assisted in securing the arrangements for the release of Mr. Guarducci and Mr. Sanchez.

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# News Release

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November 4, 1999

(4:55 p.m. EST)

No. 241

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE MINISTER SIGNS TARIFF ACCELERATION AGREEMENT WITH CHILE

International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew and Chilean Foreign Affairs Minister Juan Gabriel Valdés today signed an agreement to speed up the elimination of tariffs related to the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA). The signing took place following this week's second meeting of the CCFTA Commission in Toronto.

"I am happy we have been able to enrich our agreement by eliminating tariffs faster than originally planned," said Mr. Pettigrew. "The CCFTA is a key element of our strengthening bilateral relationship with Chile."

As part of today's agreement, scheduled to come into force on January 1, 2000, trade in a number of products will become duty free between two and seven years earlier than planned. The value in future bilateral trade in these goods is estimated at \$25 million annually.

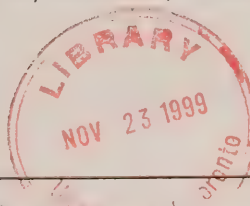
Minister Pettigrew also announced the ratification of an agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion, also to be implemented on January 1, 2000. The agreement will lead to a more stable and fair taxation regime, easing the flow of commerce for individuals and business in both countries.

Two-way trade between Canada and Chile totaled \$683 million in 1998, and Chile remains Canada's leading investment destination in Latin America, with nearly \$11 billion in foreign direct investment (actual and planned).

"Canadian companies are pursuing commercial opportunities in Chile at a robust rate," said Mr. Pettigrew. "We've become Chile's second largest foreign investor, which attests to our confidence in their economic future."

The CCFTA gives Canadian companies a leg-up on competitors by establishing a fair and transparent rules-based system covering goods, services, investment, dispute settlement and trade remedies.

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Department of Foreign Affairs  
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères  
et du Commerce international

Canada

Attached is the CCFTA Commission Joint Statement of the Ministers.

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# **SECOND MEETING OF THE CANADA-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT FREE TRADE COMMISSION: JOINT STATEMENT OF THE MINISTERS**

## **TORONTO**

**November 4, 1999**

*Following the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement Commission, Canada's Minister for International Trade, Pierre S. Pettigrew, and Chile's Minister of Foreign Affairs Juan Gabriel Valdés are pleased to release this joint statement which summarizes the overall results.*

### **JOINT STATEMENT OF THE MINISTERS**

1. We are pleased to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA) Free Trade Commission here in Toronto. We believe that the success of the dynamic and integrated partnership between our two countries, as developed and facilitated under the CCFTA, not only strengthens our bilateral relations but helps to build momentum for further trade liberalization, particularly in this hemisphere.
2. The Commission meeting was an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to implementing fully the provisions of the CCFTA. We discussed our views and cooperative efforts on other regional and multilateral trade liberalization issues.
3. We reaffirmed our endorsement of the CCFTA as the cornerstone of the Canada-Chile trade and economic relationship. The establishment of a rules-based regime under the CCFTA has increased predictability and transparency for business and investors, and facilitated the bilateral flow of goods and services and investment.
4. Upon the entry into force of this Agreement on July 5, 1997, tariffs were immediately eliminated on products which make up the majority of our two-way trade. For goods where the tariff is being phased out over time, we note that the fourth scheduled round of tariff cuts will take place on January 1, 2000.
5. It is our pleasure to announce that we have agreed today to amend the CCFTA with the intention of accelerating the elimination of tariffs for a range of products. Under this agreement, approximately an additional \$25 million in annual two way

trade is expected to become duty-free on January 1, 2000 once both Canada and Chile complete their respective implementing procedures. Details on the products concerned are summarized in the Annex to this statement.

6. We welcomed the ratification of the Canada-Chile Convention on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (DTA) by our two countries and look forward to its implementation beginning January 1, 2000. This Convention is the first of Chile's new generation of tax treaties and its implementation will fulfill a central commitment in the CCFTA (Annex O-03.1). We are confident that this Convention will lead to a more stable and fair taxation regime, which will facilitate the smooth flow of commerce for individuals and business and contribute to the growth in trade and investment between our two countries.
7. We reviewed the progress realized in implementing the specific provisions of the CCFTA. We agreed on a number of actions in relation to the supervision of the implementation of this Agreement and in oversight of its further elaboration, which are summarized in the Annex to this statement.
8. We welcomed the progress that has been achieved under the labour and environmental side agreements concluded in parallel with the CCFTA. We noted the constructive partnership between Canada and Chile on labour issues that has been facilitated and promoted under the Canada-Chile Agreement on Labour Cooperation. We agreed that the significant linkages developed and collaborative activities undertaken between our countries - in areas such as industrial relations law and practice and women and work - demonstrates our commitment to cooperating on labour-related matters. We reviewed the achievements realized under the Canada-Chile Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (CCAEC) as the institutional framework for discussion and cooperation on environment-related issues between our two countries. We noted the meeting held on November 1 between both trade and environment officials that explored informally the interface between the two issues and the decision to propose to the CCAEC Council the creation of a roundtable for discussing specific trade and environment issues.
9. We were pleased to note the continuing progress of further trade liberalization efforts in regional and multilateral fora. We reaffirmed our commitment to work together towards a Free Trade Area of the Americas and the creation of the world's largest free trade area, with 800 million people and a combined GDP of nearly \$US 11 trillion and we look forward to the successful conclusion of the Ministerial meeting being concurrently held here today. The FTAA offers an historic opportunity to build on established free trade ties within the hemisphere and we note the positive model that the CCFTA provides in expanding trade and

investment links between hemispheric trade partners. We welcomed the meeting of the Americas Business Forum held here November 1-3 and agreed that the Forum reflects the heightened level of interest and participation in inter-American commerce from businesses within the hemisphere.

10. We agreed on the importance of sustaining momentum for further multilateral trade liberalization and look forward to launching a new round of comprehensive negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial meeting in Seattle November 30 - December 3. We discussed our general objectives for the new round and expressed our support for broad-based negotiations that will further open global markets, expand the scope of trade rules, strengthen the institutional workings of the WTO, and address public concerns about the social dimensions of trade. In particular, we state our commitment to support the elimination of export subsidies in agriculture in the new round of trade negotiations. We also reaffirmed our commitments to transparency and openness in the negotiations.





## **ANNEX TO THE JOINT STATEMENT OF MINISTERS: IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS**

*In accordance with its mandate to supervise the implementation and further elaboration of the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement pursuant to Article N-01 of the Agreement, the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Free Trade Commission :*

1. took note of the progress achieved under the 8 Committees and Working Groups established under the Agreement and in accordance to the mandates provided in the CCFTA and welcomed the continued cooperation between officials in working together to meet the shared goal of further trade liberalization between our two countries;
2. agreed to accelerate the elimination of tariffs on the following products: turkey poult, turkey hatching eggs, feed peas, fresh or chilled tomatoes, peaches, plums, sloes, certain colour pigments, certain articles of plastic and a number of textile products; and confirmed our intention to take the necessary steps to complete our respective domestic implementing procedures with the objective that these goods shall become free of customs duties effective January 1, 2000;
3. took note of the progress attained in the Committee on Telecommunications Standards in establishing mutually compatible procedures for recognition of test reports in both countries as called for in Article I-04 of the Agreement;
4. welcomed the completion and dissemination of the Chilean public explanatory document on temporary entry procedures of the Agreement, as called for in Article K-04.1(b) and noted Chilean cooperation in lowering visa processing fees from \$US 650 to \$US 100;
5. encouraged Canadian and Chilean professional service providers, particularly engineers, to continue work on developing mutually acceptable standards and criteria for licensing and certification of professionals pursuant to Annex H-10.5;
6. welcomed the completion of the rules of procedure for dispute settlement called for under Article N-12;
7. instructed officials to complete the roster of panellists for dispute settlement purposes pursuant to Article N-09 of the Agreement;
8. agreed that Chile would host the next regular meeting of the Commission in 2000.





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# *News Release*

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**November 8, 1999**

## **ERRATUM**

**Re: News Release 242**

In the news release entitled MINISTER PETTIGREW ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO FTAA TRADE MINISTERS MEETING, released on November 4 at 8:15 p.m. EST, an error occurred in paragraph 20 of the DECLARATION OF MINISTERS, attached to the news release. The paragraph should read as follows:

20. We reaffirm our commitment to the global, rules-based, trading system under the WTO, and our support for the launch of new, multilateral negotiations at the Third Ministerial Conference of the WTO in Seattle in December. While acknowledging that the FTAA and WTO processes are related, we stress the distinct aim of the FTAA negotiations – which is to create a Free Trade Area in a manner that is consistent with the relevant WTO provisions. We therefore reiterate our intention to pursue the FTAA negotiations with intensity and in accordance with our established timelines.









# News Release

www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca

November 4, 1999

(8:15 p.m. EST)

No. 242

## MINISTER PETTIGREW ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO FTAA TRADE MINISTERS MEETING

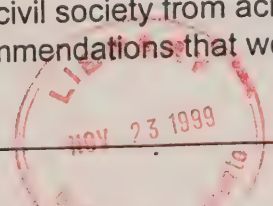
International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew today successfully chaired the first negotiating meeting of Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Ministers in Toronto. Ministers from the 34 democratic countries of the hemisphere agreed to pursue the FTAA negotiations with intensity. They also agreed to a common approach on agricultural export subsidies for the upcoming World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations in Seattle this December.

"I am particularly proud that the hemisphere, which includes developed and developing countries, will present a united position in Seattle on the need to eliminate agricultural export subsidies," said Minister Pettigrew. "This is a very significant achievement."

A comprehensive business facilitation package was also adopted at the meeting. "We focused on practical measures to simplify customs clearances and to promote government transparency, because these are key priorities for our business communities," said Mr. Pettigrew. "It shows concrete progress in our work and responds directly to many of their requests."

The business facilitation announcement includes eight customs measures that will reduce transaction costs and create a more consistent and predictable business environment, making it easier to conduct business in the hemisphere. As well, transparency measures will make procedures and regulations better known and accessible to the public, with the information kept current and relevant to business communities and other interested parties through the use of new communications technologies.

On November 3, 22 of the trade ministers and vice-ministers met with representatives from organizations representing a cross-section of civil society from across the Americas. The ministers were presented with recommendations that were developed at



the Americas Civil Society Forum, on issues such as foreign direct investment, labour standards and poverty alleviation. They also engaged in a question and answer session with participants.

"Our meeting yesterday with civil society representatives was an unprecedented event in the trade negotiation process," said the Minister.

"As chair, Canada established a solid base for the negotiations by listening to all voices concerned, in particular smaller economies who want to continue their full participation in the FTAA," said Mr. Pettigrew. He added he was pleased Canada could hand over the chair to Argentina with an FTAA institutional foundation firmly in place.

The FTAA meeting was one component of a series of hemispheric events Canada is hosting over the next two years. The city of Windsor will host the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in June 2000, and Quebec City will host the third Summit of the Americas in 2001.

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The Declaration of Ministers and related documents are attached.

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**FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS  
DECLARATION OF MINISTERS  
FIFTH TRADE MINISTERIAL MEETING  
TORONTO, CANADA  
4 NOVEMBER, 1999**

1. We the Ministers Responsible for Trade of the 34 countries participating in the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) negotiations held our Fifth Ministerial Meeting in Toronto, Canada on November 3-4, 1999.
2. We welcome the considerable progress that has been made in the FTAA negotiations during the initial eighteen-month stage under Canada's chairmanship — a goal we had set for ourselves at our last meeting in San José. We reaffirm the principles and objectives that have guided our work since Miami, including *inter alia* that the agreement will be balanced, comprehensive, WTO-consistent, and will constitute a single undertaking. We agree that we are on our way to completing our work by 2005.
3. We believe in the importance of trade liberalization, both globally and regionally, in generating economic growth and prosperity in the Hemisphere, and we welcome the impetus being provided by the FTAA negotiations to further liberalization. We strongly support the widening and deepening process of economic integration in our Hemisphere, including sub-regionally, bilaterally and through the adoption of unilateral liberalization measures in some of our economies. Underlining the objective of the FTAA to eliminate progressively barriers to trade and investment and thereby stimulate world trade, we reiterate our commitment to avoid to the greatest extent possible the adoption of policies or measures that adversely affect trade and investment in the Hemisphere. We acknowledge the progress being achieved in implementing the commitments assumed by our governments in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, and the ongoing preparatory work in the run-up to the Third Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Seattle in December.
4. Notwithstanding the many challenges that have confronted regional economies since our last meeting, including financial turbulence, economic downturns and natural disasters in a number of our countries, we are pleased that trade and investment flows across the Hemisphere have in general been maintained. We are convinced that the commitment of our countries to open economies, market-based principles and rules-based trading systems will contribute to a rapid recovery and growth in the most-affected economies.
5. We reiterate that the negotiations of the FTAA shall take into account the broad social and economic agenda contained in the Santiago and Miami Declarations



of Principles and Plans of Action with a view to contributing to raising living standards, to improving the working conditions of all peoples in the Americas, and to better protecting the environment. We reiterate that in designing the FTAA we shall take into account differences in the levels of development and size of the economies in our Hemisphere, to create opportunities for the full participation of the smaller economies and to increase their level of development. We recognize the broad differences in the levels of development and size of the economies in our Hemisphere, and we will remain cognizant of those differences in our negotiations so as to ensure that they receive the treatment that they require to ensure the full participation of all the countries in the construction and benefits of the FTAA. In order to comply with this, we instruct the TNC *to begin immediately* to examine the ways in which these differences could be treated in the negotiations, taking into account the treatment given to them in other fora, *and provide continuing guidance to Negotiating Groups* and report to us at our next meeting.

6. We welcome the benefits accruing from the FTAA process as a result of our early preparatory work. In addition to contributing to further economic integration, the FTAA process serves to strengthen cooperation among the principal international institutions in the Hemisphere. It has promoted the creation of many partnerships and networks amongst our business communities and other segments of civil society and, as a result, has brought about extensive information-sharing and knowledge-transfer between our governments. Looking ahead, we are confident that the FTAA will not only strengthen our community of the Americas but, by reducing and eliminating impediments to the free flow of goods, services and capital across our borders, will substantially improve the well-being of the citizens of all of our countries.

### **Progress and Next Steps in the Negotiations**

7. Over the past eighteen months the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) has established the initial institutional foundation necessary to launch effective negotiations. In particular we welcome: the agreement on and progress being made in the implementation of work programs for each of the nine Negotiating Groups, the Consultative Group on Smaller Economies, the Committee of Government Representatives on the Participation of Civil Society, and the Joint Government-Private Sector Committee of Experts on Electronic Commerce; the establishment and functioning of the Administrative Secretariat in Miami – the initial site of the negotiations; progress towards the development of rules and procedures to govern the negotiations; and the creation of a TNC Subcommittee on Budget and Administration to strengthen financial management of the negotiations.



8. We reviewed and took note of the work done to date by the Negotiating Groups, including the preparation of annotated outlines of their respective chapters in an FTAA agreement. We welcome the progress made by each of the nine Negotiating Groups in carrying out their work programs as identified in their reports. In light of this progress, we instruct the Negotiating Groups to prepare a draft text of their respective chapters, taking into account the progress made in the preparation of the annotated outlines for each area, recognizing that they should be viewed as frames of reference to facilitate the work of the Negotiating Groups and not as definitive or exclusive outlines of an agreement. The drafts should be remitted to the TNC no later than 12 weeks prior to our next Ministerial meeting to be held in Argentina in April 2001. The Negotiating Groups will have the objective of preparing a text that is comprehensive in scope and that contains the texts on which consensus was reached and places the texts on which consensus could not be reached between brackets. We also instruct all Negotiating Groups that have responsibility over issues of access to markets for goods and services to discuss the modalities and procedures for negotiations in their respective areas and report to the TNC.
9. We instruct the TNC to assemble the texts provided by the Negotiating Groups and to prepare a report for our consideration at the April 2001 Ministerial meeting indicating the areas in which our guidance is needed in light of the draft texts of an FTAA agreement prepared by the Negotiating Groups. Further, we instruct the TNC to begin discussions of the overall architecture of an FTAA agreement, e.g., general and/or institutional aspects of the Agreement, and include in its report for our consideration a summary of that discussion.
10. To carry out the work that we have requested, we agree that the TNC should hold at least three meetings during the next eighteen-months ending on April 30, 2001. The first meeting will be held in Guatemala by the end of April 2000. The second meeting is to be held in Barbados and the third meeting is to be held in Peru.

### **Structure and Organization**

11. We reaffirm the TNC's central role in managing the FTAA negotiations, including guiding the work of the Negotiating Groups, the Committee of Government Representatives on the Participation of Civil Society, the Consultative Group on Smaller Economies and the Joint Government-Private Sector Committee of Experts on Electronic Commerce; ensuring transparency in the negotiations; overseeing the Administrative Secretariat; overseeing the implementation of approved business facilitation measures and identifying new business facilitation measures; addressing issues unresolved after due diligence at the level of the

Negotiating Groups; and ensuring that progress is made in all of the Negotiating Groups and areas of negotiation in carrying out their objectives and mandates.

12. With respect to inter-relationships among the Negotiating Groups, in particular the instruction given to study the interaction between the Groups on Market Access and Agriculture and trade and competition policy, including antidumping measures, we reiterate the obligation of reporting to the TNC no later than December 2000.

### **Rotation of Chairs and Vice Chairs**

13. We acknowledge and appreciate the work of the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the FTAA Negotiating Groups, Committees, and Consultative Group during the initial eighteen-month stage of the negotiations. Their efforts and professional dedication contributed significantly to the progress achieved to date. A new roster of the countries which will serve as the Chairs and Vice Chairs for the next eighteen-month period, which reflects the general guidelines on the rotation and selection of Chairs and Vice Chairs that we set in San José, is attached as Annex I to this Declaration.

### **Business Facilitation**

14. We agree to a number of specific business facilitation measures as part of our continuing efforts to achieve progress in creating an FTAA. These measures reflect the substantive work that has emanated from the FTAA process to date. We have adopted a thematic approach to business facilitation and have concentrated our initial work in the areas of customs procedures and enhanced transparency in response to the priorities identified by our business communities.
15. We are pleased that resources have been identified in the Inter-American Development Bank for technical assistance to facilitate implementation of these measures, particularly in smaller economies. In particular we appreciate the willingness of the Multilateral Investment Fund to consider financial support for the implementation of these measures.
16. In the area of customs, we agree to implement, beginning on January 1, 2000, the eight specific measures set out in Annex II to this Declaration. These measures will contribute significantly to the conduct of business in the hemisphere by reducing transaction costs and creating a more consistent and predictable business environment.
17. The transparency measures outlined in Annex III will make our procedures and regulations better known and more accessible to the public. The information



contained in Annex III will be kept current and relevant to our business communities and other interested parties, taking advantage of new technologies.

18. We agree that business facilitation is an ongoing process and we have directed the TNC:
  - a) to supervise the full implementation of these measures by the target date of our next Ministerial meeting;
  - b) to facilitate the provision of technical assistance for implementing the measures, in particular for the smaller economies;
  - c) to review progress and report to us at our next meeting; and
  - d) to identify, consider and recommend additional business facilitation measures, calling on experts as appropriate, and report to us at our next meeting.
19. We note that in addition to our work, initiatives that improve the business climate are proceeding in the hemisphere in other fora as part of the broader effort being made on trade and economic integration.

#### **Relationship between the FTAA and the WTO**

20. We reaffirm our commitment to the global, rules-based, trading system under the WTO, and our support for the launch of new, multilateral negotiations at the Third Ministerial Conference of the WTO in Seattle in December. While acknowledging that the FTAA and WTO processes are related, we stress the distinct aim of the FTAA negotiations – which is to create a Free Trade Area in a manner that is consistent with the relevant WTO provisions. We therefore reiterate our intention to pursue the FTAA negotiations with intensity as a matter of priority and in accordance with our established timelines.
21. With respect to the future multilateral negotiations on agriculture, we agree:
  - 1) To work towards the objective of reaching an agreement, during the next WTO Multilateral Negotiations on Agriculture, on the elimination of export subsidies on agricultural products and on the prohibition of their reintroduction in any form;
  - 2) To work towards the earliest compliance of all commitments under the Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture; and

- 3) To work towards having disciplines on other trade distorting practices and measures in the next WTO Multilateral Negotiations on Agriculture.
22. Moreover, we are of the view that the agenda for the forthcoming WTO negotiations should be balanced to respond to the interests of all economies. It should also be sufficiently broad-based to allow for meaningful negotiations.
23. We also agree that the interests of developing economies, including the smaller economies of the FTAA, should be addressed through enhanced attention to the effective implementation of special and differential treatment and other WTO provisions affecting developing countries and increased support for capacity building and technical assistance, so as to facilitate their ability to participate fully in and benefit from the WTO.
24. We further agree to communicate the substance of these agreements to the WTO General Council at the earliest opportunity.

#### **Other Issues**

25. We reaffirm our commitment to the principle of transparency in the negotiating process and to conducting our negotiations in such a manner as to broaden public understanding and support for the FTAA. We established the Committee of Government Representatives on the Participation of Civil Society as a mechanism to fulfill this commitment, and we welcome the report presenting the range of views received by the Committee from individuals and organizations in the hemisphere. We have discussed the submissions and directed the Committee to obtain ongoing input from Civil Society on trade matters relevant to the FTAA through written submissions, using the San José Declaration as the frame of reference, and to provide a report outlining the full range of views received for our consideration at our next meeting.
26. We take note of the recommendations from the Fifth Americas Business Forum. The recommendations we have received from previous ABFs, as well as those received here in Toronto, serve as valuable input into the FTAA process. The proposals received from our business communities have been particularly helpful in shaping our work on business facilitation within the FTAA.
27. We thank the Joint Government-Private Sector Committee of Experts on Electronic Commerce for its detailed report and we note its many recommendations on broadening the benefits of electronic commerce. This report will be shared with other relevant authorities within our governments, and with the public at large. We agree that the Joint Committee should continue to meet over the next eighteen-month period as a non-negotiating group. The



focus of its work should be to develop recommendations in time for our next meeting in compliance with the Committee's mandate.

28. With respect to the smaller economies, we take note of the report of the Consultative Group on Smaller Economies, and agree with the recommendations of the Consultative Group that have been accepted by the TNC concerning further work during the next stage of the negotiations. We reiterate the importance we attach to the effective operation of the Consultative Group and call upon the TNC to take into account, in its deliberations, including in the drafting of the Negotiating Group texts, and in its report to us in April 2001, its findings and recommendations in order to create the opportunities for the full participation of the smaller economies and to increase their level of development.
29. We request that the Tripartite Committee:
  - a) disseminate through the FTAA Home page an inventory of training opportunities available in FTAA-relevant areas of trade policy and negotiation for both government officials and the private sector in the region in order to facilitate access to technical assistance;
  - b) explore opportunities for technical assistance to facilitate the organization of an inventory of measures which affect trade in services; and the establishment of a work program to improve statistics on trade in services;
  - c) explore opportunities for technical assistance to help countries, where necessary, establish national contact points that could provide information on national legislation and other measures affecting trade in services in the hemisphere;
  - d) maintain on an ongoing basis a calendar of deadlines established by the Negotiating Groups for inputs from delegations; and
  - e) assist FTAA governments through the mechanism of the Consultative Group on Smaller Economies to identify possible sources of technical assistance based on the existing database prepared by the Tripartite Committee and the needs as identified by countries.
30. We recognize and appreciate the analytical, technical and financial support that continues to be provided by the institutions comprising the Tripartite Committee — namely the Inter-American Development Bank, the Organization of American States and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the

Caribbean. This support has been essential to the conduct of the negotiations to date, and we ask the institutions of the Tripartite Committee to continue to provide such assistance for FTAA-related matters.

31. We acknowledge the logistical support to the negotiations provided by the Administrative Secretariat. We appreciate the support of the various levels of government and the citizens of Florida for the Administrative Secretariat during this first phase of the negotiations and look forward to their continuing support during the period in which the Secretariat remains in Miami. We also acknowledge the financial support of the institutions of the Tripartite Committee, in particular the Inter-American Development Bank, to the Administrative Secretariat. We instruct the Chairman of the TNC to make the necessary requests to the Tripartite Committee institutions in order to obtain the support for the operations of the Administrative Secretariat in Panama. Furthermore, we request a favourable response from the Tripartite Committee institutions to such a petition in order to facilitate the relocation, as well as to ensure the continuation of the negotiations in the new site.

### **Acknowledgement**

32. We thank Argentina, Suriname, Bolivia and the United States for hosting meetings of the TNC and Canada for its chairmanship of the FTAA negotiations during the first phase of the negotiations and its hosting of the Toronto Ministerial Meeting. We look forward to our next Ministerial meeting in Argentina in 2001.

## Annex 1

### ROTATION OF CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS FOR FTAA NEGOTIATING GROUPS, COMMITTEES AND CONSULTATIVE GROUPS

November 1999-March/April 2001

<u>FTAA NEGOTIATING GROUPS</u>		<u>CHAIR</u>	<u>VICE-CHAIR</u>
1	Market Access	Chile	Barbados
2	Investment	Trinidad & Tobago	Colombia
3	Services	U.S.A.	Peru
4	Government Procurement	Canada	Chile
5	Dispute Settlement	Costa Rica	Peru
6	Agriculture	Brazil	Ecuador
7	Intellectual Property Rights	Mexico	Paraguay
8	Subsidies, Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Duties	Venezuela	Uruguay
9	Competition Policy	Colombia	Canada

<u>OTHER FTAA ENTITIES</u>		<u>CHAIR</u>	<u>VICE-CHAIR</u>
1	Consultative Group on Smaller Economies	Guatemala	Bahamas
2	Committee of Government Representatives on the Participation of Civil Society	Bolivia	
3	Joint Government-Private Sector Committee of Experts on Electronic Commerce	Uruguay	Canada





## Annex II

### CUSTOMS-RELATED MEASURES

#### 1. Temporary Importation / Temporary Admission of Certain Goods Related to Business Travellers:

Establish new or streamline existing customs procedures for the entry of, and suspension of duties on, promotional documents and other goods related to business travel, whether or not these goods accompany the business traveller.

##### Primary Elements:

- i. Provide for suspension of customs duties
- ii. Identify promotional documents and other goods that do not require guarantees upon entry
- iii. Establish streamlined procedures for promotional documents and other goods that remain in the country
- iv. Establish an allowable time period for temporary importation/temporary admission
- v. Where possible, minimize the cost and administrative complexity of obtaining guarantees for temporary importation/temporary admission. Where possible, the amount of guarantees required should not exceed the amount of duties otherwise payable
- vi. Under normal circumstances, documentation and approval should be provided upon entry of the business traveller

#### 2. Express Shipments:

Develop and implement procedures to expedite express shipments, taking into account the *WCO Customs Guidelines for Express Consignments Clearance* and the Cancun Memorandum, while maintaining the appropriate control and customs selection.

##### Primary Elements:

- i. Provide for separate expedited customs processing for express shipments
- ii. Provide for pre-arrival processing of information and data related to express shipments
- iii. Permit submission of a single manifest covering all of the goods in the shipment by the express service company, through electronic or other means

- iv. Where possible, and with the appropriate guarantees, provide for the release of certain goods through submission of minimal documentation and/or deferred payment
- v. In normal circumstances, express shipments should be released by customs authorities within 6 hours of the submission of necessary customs documentation provided the goods have arrived
- vi. In response to requests from express shipment companies, consideration could be given to providing extended hours of service and/or customs processing at premises under the control of the customs authority, at the discretion of customs authorities

### **3. Simplified Procedures for Low Value Shipments:**

Establish simplified, streamlined and expedited procedures for low value shipment transactions while maintaining the appropriate customs control and selection.

#### Primary Elements:

- i. Establish minimal documentation, data and procedural requirements based on value of goods while maintaining the appropriate customs control and selection
- ii. Develop procedures to permit the electronic submission of information

### **4. Compatible Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Systems and Common Data Elements:**

Establish compatible electronic data interchange systems between traders and customs administrations that foster expedited clearance procedures. Develop a core set of data elements required for the administration of national customs regulations and requirements associated with the customs clearance of goods.

Encourage the establishment of compatible electronic data interchange systems between customs administrations that foster increased cooperation and information exchange. Develop parameters for the bilateral or plurilateral exchange of information related to compliance with customs regulations and requirements.

#### Primary Elements:

- i. Develop electronic systems accessible to the trading community
- ii. Develop capacity for electronic submission and processing of information and data prior to arrival of the shipment
- iii. Develop capacity for customs electronic/automated systems to work in conjunction with risk analysis and targeting

- iv. Work towards developing compatible electronic systems among customs administrations
- v. As an initial phase, identify current data elements used in electronic systems established per elements (i) to (iv) required by each customs administration, including, if feasible, those data elements required to determine admissibility of entries or those required by other agencies
- vi. Work towards developing a set of common data elements for customs clearance of goods

## **5. Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System:**

Apply the 1996 Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, at the six digit level.

## **6. Customs Information Dissemination/Hemispheric Guide on Customs Procedures:**

Disseminate widely in the most user-friendly manner, basic up-to-date information on customs procedures, laws, regulations, guidelines, and administrative rulings, taking into account the Hemispheric Guide on Customs Procedures prepared by the Working Group on Customs Procedures and Rules of Origin.

### Primary Elements:

- i. Update the Hemispheric Guide on Customs Procedures
- ii. Disseminate the updated Hemispheric Guide on Customs Procedures through the FTAA Home Page
- iii. Establish hyperlinks from the FTAA Home Page to national customs administrations' homepages for future updates to the country-specific information contained in the Hemispheric Guide on Customs Procedures

## **7. Codes of Conduct for Customs Officials:**

Elaborate and implement national codes of conduct applicable to customs officials, taking into account the Arusha Declaration.

### Primary Elements:

- i. Introduction of, or amendment to, national codes of conduct, legislation, policies or regulatory instruments applicable to customs officials with provisions on standards of conduct, conflict of interest, and possible sanctions and disciplinary action

- ii. Review of the 12 elements contained in the *WCO Arusha Declaration* for assessment of current practices and development of national implementation programs

## **8. Risk Analysis/ Targeting Methodology:**

Encourage risk management systems used as criteria for required verification activities, while respecting the confidentiality of information. The objective would be to allow for focusing of customs enforcement activities on high-risk goods and travellers while facilitating clearance and movement of low-risk goods.

### Primary Elements:

- i. Develop processing and release customs procedures and systems that include risk analysis and targeting to identify high-risk goods, shipments and travellers
- ii. Risk analysis through pre-arrival processing of information and data to identify or target high risk-goods, shipments and travellers that will be subject to inspection and/or other customs procedures



## **Annex III**

### **TRANSPARENCY-RELATED MEASURES**

1. Disseminate and periodically update information on tariffs and trade flows prepared in the context of the Negotiating Group on Market Access through the FTAA Home Page.
2. Publish and disseminate the document "National Practices on Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment in the Western Hemisphere" prepared by the FTAA Working Group on Standards and Technical Barriers to Trade.
3. Disseminate and periodically update the list of national contact points that provide information on national legislation and other measures affecting trade in services. This information will include name, title, office, address, telephone, fax and e-mail.
4. Disseminate through the FTAA Home Page the existing procedures and requirements for temporary entry of business persons in each of the FTAA countries.
5. Periodic dissemination of the statistical "Report on Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean" prepared by ECLAC by linking it to the FTAA Home Page.
6. Disseminate through the FTAA Home Page and periodically update information on commercial arbitration regimes existing in the countries of the Hemisphere, including the institutions that provide commercial arbitration services.
7. Disseminate through the FTAA Home Page and periodically update the "Compendium on Antidumping and Countervailing Duties Laws in the Western Hemisphere", which includes information on national legislation and contact points.
8. Disseminate through the FTAA Home Page and periodically update the "Inventory of Domestic Laws and Regulations Referring to Competition Policies in the Western Hemisphere."
9. Disseminate through the FTAA Home Page and periodically update the "Inventory of Dispute Settlement Mechanisms, Procedures and Legal Texts Established in Existing Trade and Integration Agreements, Treaties and Arrangements in the Hemisphere and in the WTO."

10. Make information on government regulations, procedures, and competent authorities more accessible, including via the use of Internet links to the FTAA Home Page, in the following areas:

- a) government procurement;
- b) subsidies, antidumping and countervailing duties;
- c) competition policy;
- d) services;
- e) intellectual property rights;
- f) investment;
- g) market access, which includes standards;
- h) agriculture, which includes sanitary and phytosanitary measures; and
- i) dispute settlement.

In addition to the above, a number of related inventories are also included on the official FTAA Home Page. New documents and inventories will be posted on the FTAA Home Page as they become available. Existing information will be updated periodically to ensure that they are kept current and relevant to our business communities and other interested stakeholders.

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

November 5, 1999

(3:45 p.m. EST)

No. 243

## CHAN TO LEAD TRADE MISSION TO CHINA

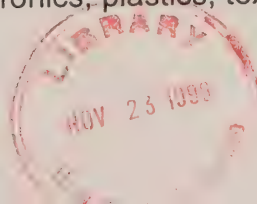
Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that he will lead a trade mission to China from November 7 to 14.

"China, with its population of 1.2 billion people, represents a valuable market for our goods and services," said Mr. Chan. "I am pleased to travel with representatives of 35 companies that are ready to contribute outstanding technology and expertise to China's development." During the mission, Mr. Chan will be raising political, trade and economic matters, as well as good governance and the rule of law.

The first stop on the Secretary of State's mission is Shenzhen. There, the delegation will visit the city's Industrial Exhibition Centre and meet with government officials. Capital projects being planned for this Special Economic Zone will be of particular interest to Canadian engineering firms and small- and medium-sized businesses and their Chinese counterparts.

On November 9 the delegation will depart for Guangzhou, where Mr. Chan will lead a site visit to the 3rd International Environmental Fair. Information technology company representatives will meet with Guangdong Information Centre officials as well as with key members of the local business community. The full delegation will attend a luncheon hosted by the Guangdong Provincial Government. On November 10 the delegation is expected to meet with Provincial Governor Lu Ruihua and with Lin Shusen, Mayor of Guangzhou. As well, the Secretary of State will deliver a keynote address, "Beyond the Golden Mountain — Canada Today", at a Canadian Business Forum event. Mr. Chan will also open two special events: the First Canada-Guangdong Environment Action Forum and the Second Canada-China Building Materials Forum.

On November 11 the group will travel to Foshan and Shunde, southwest of Guangzhou in Guangdong Province, where they will meet with the cities' mayors, Liang Shaotang and Feng Runsheng, and other city officials. In Foshan, the Canadian delegation will be able to explore business potential in the electronics, plastics, textile and ceramic





industries. Shunde offers opportunities in the building materials, environmental products and hi-tech fields.

The delegation will spend November 12 in Jiangmen. Scheduled events include a meeting with Mayor Jiang Jin and Party Secretary Zhong Yangsheng and a presentation by the Jiangmen and Wuyi Planning Commissions. In the afternoon the delegation will have the opportunity to visit one of five counties in Jiangmen municipality, including Kaiping, Taishan, Heshan, Xinhui and Enping. Jiangmen, a Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone, is experiencing increasing momentum in "traditional" industries such as papermaking, machinery and electronics.

On November 13 the group will travel to Zhongshan, where they will be briefed by the Zhongshan Environmental and City Planning Bureau and meet with key municipal officials.

-30-

A list of companies participating in the business delegation is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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(613) 995-1852

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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## **BUSINESS DELEGATION ACCOMPANYING SECRETARY OF STATE (ASIA-PACIFIC) RAYMOND CHAN IN CHINA**

### **Broadcasting**

Radio Canada International, Montreal,  
QC

### **Construction/Forest Products**

Davey International, Stoney Creek, ON  
Kryton International, Vancouver, BC  
MHKW Architects Inc., Toronto, ON  
Sundance Forest Industries Ltd., Edson,  
AB  
Xenexi Construction Enterprises,  
Montreal, QC

### **Education**

The University of British Columbia,  
Vancouver, BC

### **Environment**

Carvern Petrochemical Co. Ltd., Fort  
Erie, ON  
Ecolo Odor Control Systems Worldwide,  
Mississauga, ON  
Kraus Group, Winnipeg, MB  
Reid Crowther & Partners, Kelowna, BC

### **Financial Services**

Bridge Trust & Investment Group,  
Vancouver, BC  
The Bank of Nova Scotia, Toronto, ON  
Certified General Accountants'  
Association of Canada, Hong Kong,  
China  
Export Development Corp., Ottawa, ON  
Manulife Financial, Toronto, ON  
The Richard Wong Group, Vancouver,  
BC  
Royal Bank Group, Vancouver, BC

### **High Technology and Telecommunications**

Avion Tech Industries Inc., Vancouver,  
BC  
Guangzhou Willex Technology, North  
York, ON  
Harris Corporation China, Dollard-des-  
Ormeaux, QC  
Henry Global Consulting Services,  
Ottawa, ON  
Newbridge Networks Corporation,  
Kanata, ON  
Nortel (China) Ltd., Toronto, ON  
Pentranic Group Company, West Ajax,  
ON

### **International Trade**

Global-Net Enterprises, Vancouver, BC  
Hillary Enterprises Ltd., Vancouver, BC  
International Sources, Vancouver, BC  
Kiu Shun Trading Co. Ltd., Vancouver,  
BC

### **Services**

Blake, Cassels & Graydon, Toronto, ON  
Howard and Sons Marketing Services  
Inc., West Vancouver, BC  
QIM, Mississauga, ON

### **Transport**

Airline Services International,  
Mississauga, ON  
Vancouver Port Corporation,  
Vancouver, BC

### **Travel**

Sunshine Travel, Richmond, BC



# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

November 9, 1999

(10:00 a.m. EST)

No. 244

## CANADA-CHINA JOINT COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS UNDERWAY IN BEIJING

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan today announced that the fourth meeting of the Canada-China Joint Committee on Human Rights (JCHR) is underway in Beijing on November 8 and 9.

"The Joint Committee was established as a key component in our human rights dialogue with China. The Committee provides a forum for promoting Canada's commitment to human rights observance and democratic development in China," said Minister Axworthy. "The Chinese government is well aware of our interest in areas such as civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights."

"Our delegation will also raise specific issues related to religious freedoms and basic rights and reports of ill-treatment of Falun Gong adherents," said Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Chan. "We are most disturbed at the repression of freedom of belief and the arrest and detention of so many Falun Gong practitioners."

The JCHR is taking place as a seven-person Canadian religious freedoms delegation, organized by the Canadian Council of Churches (CCC), completes a two-week visit to China. Headed by Senator Lois Wilson, former Moderator of the United Church of Canada, the CCC delegation focussed on the protection of religious freedoms through UN human rights covenants and the rule of law.

Canada's delegation to the JCHR will visit Tibet following the Beijing meetings. This will provide an opportunity to raise ongoing concerns about minority rights and the situation of the Panchen Lama.

Both Mr. Axworthy and Mr. Chan emphasized that the JCHR is key to Canada's wide-ranging and frank human rights dialogue with China, which also includes plurilateral symposiums on the legal aspects of human rights and bilateral consultations with ministers and other officials. The JCHR previously met in Ottawa in July 1997, in Beijing in October 1997 and in Winnipeg in November 1998. There have been two Plurilateral



Human Rights Symposiums, the first near Vancouver in March 1998 and the second in Qingdao in July 1999. In addition, Canadian officials continue to raise concerns with their Chinese counterparts, both in Canada and in China.

- 30 -

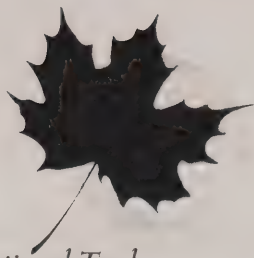
For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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*International Trade  
Commerce international*

# News Release

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

November 15, 1999

(3:40 p.m. EST)

No. 245

## **PETTIGREW ANNOUNCES CANADA'S POSITION ON WTO NEGOTIATIONS**

International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew today presented to Parliament Canada's position for upcoming negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The report, "Canada and the future of the World Trade Organization," describes in detail the approach Canada will take when the world's trade ministers meet in Seattle in late November. It directly answers 45 recommendations made by an all-party Parliamentary committee, the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

"Parliamentarians and citizens have told us that they support Canada's role in international trade talks, as long as they benefit Canadians as a whole, that they reflect our heritage of democracy and openness, and our ongoing quest for a just society," said Minister Pettigrew.

"Canada's position is both forward-looking and balanced. Our economy is based on exports, and we must continue to press for increased access for our goods and services. At the same time, we will continue to safeguard Canada's vital social interests."

Earlier this year, the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade held 30 public sessions and heard from more than 400 Canadians from a variety of business, labour, environmental, academic and human rights groups. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade also directly consulted industry sectors and citizen groups throughout the spring and summer and will continue to do so during negotiations.



Department of Foreign Affairs  
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères  
et du Commerce international

Canada

"For at least the last 50 years, Canada has been helping to write the international rule book, to emphasize rules, not brute power, as the key to international peace and order," said the Minister. "Our continued work at the WTO is a worthy chapter in that book."

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A backgrounder on Canada's position is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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## **Background**

### **CANADA AND THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**

In late November, Canada will join the 130-plus member countries of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Seattle to launch a new series of global trade negotiations.

Today, the Government of Canada lays out its detailed approach to the WTO with its response to a report by the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

The government's objectives in the upcoming trade negotiations are outlined below.

#### **Agriculture**

- achieve significant improvements in market access for our agriculture and agri-food products;
- eliminate export subsidies for agriculture;
- achieve substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support;
- maintain our orderly marketing systems;
- allow Canada to maintain its leadership in the commercialization of biotechnology products, and to participate in a WTO working group on the subject.

#### **Market Access**

- improve market access with our major trading partners, with particular attention to fish and seafood, non-ferrous metals, wood products and value-added, high-technology products;
- continue to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade that prevent Canadian exporters from expanding and creating more jobs, particularly in agriculture and services.

#### **Trade Facilitation**

- facilitate international trade by developing new rules for border-related procedures.

**Trade Remedy Rules**

- strengthen multilateral disciplines on measures that can disrupt or distort trade (e.g., anti-dumping, subsidies).

**Government Procurement**

- support transparency in government procurement as a way to build stability and confidence in a global marketplace;
- continue to work toward the elimination of discriminatory provisions in order to improve access for Canadian firms in foreign markets.

**Services**

- continue to liberalize trade in services, respecting national policy objectives and the level of development of individual members.

**Intellectual Property**

- extend the moratorium on the application of the non-violation provision of the intellectual property agreement;
- ensure full and timely implementation of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS);
- participate in ongoing work at the WTO and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) aimed at improving the international intellectual property framework.

**Culture**

- seek recognition of the importance of preserving and promoting cultural diversity;
- pursue a new international instrument to set out clear ground rules that would enable countries to maintain policies that promote their culture.

**Electronic Commerce**

- continue the standstill on the application of customs duties to electronic transmissions;



- continue an e-commerce work program by creating a non-negotiating working group.

### **Investment**

- safeguard Canada's right to regulate, and to promote fundamental Canadian values in strategic sectors such as health, education, culture and environmental protection.

### **Competition Policy**

- develop a framework agreement on competition policy that would provide for common approaches to private anti-competitive behaviour that adversely affects trade or investment liberalization, while maintaining the independence of competition authorities.

### **Environment**

- ensure that negotiating groups take environmental considerations fully into account so that trade policies and environmental policies are consistent and complement one another.

### **Labour**

- work for official observer status at the WTO for the International Labour Organization (ILO);
- urge global compliance with the ILO's two main instruments on child labour and worker rights.

### **Coherence**

- ensure that the multilateral trading system supports the international pursuit of other goals, notably sustainable development and other social objectives.

### **Developing Countries**

- ensure that the benefits of the global trading system are realized in the world's least developed societies.

**Consultations and Information for Citizens**

- recognize the role of citizens in trade by ensuring that they are fully informed and consulted about upcoming negotiations, especially on areas of more immediate interest such as health and education;
- continue to push for greater openness at the WTO, particularly broader and quicker release of documents, and improve the participation of non-governmental groups at that organization.

# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

November 15, 1999

(4:00 p.m. EST)

No. 246

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES RENEWAL OF THE CANADA-U.S. FULBRIGHT AGREEMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Canada and the United States have renewed the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Agreement for the Binational Educational Exchange Program. The signing ceremony took place at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, on November 15.

"Canada and the United States enjoy close ties and a history of co-operation," said Mr. Axworthy. "The Fulbright Program increases understanding between Canadians and Americans by linking current and future scholars and leaders."

On March 10, 1998, Minister Axworthy and United States Secretary of State Madeleine Albright agreed to increase by US\$150 000 the base annual support provided by each country. These funds have served to increase the funding commitments from corporations, foundations, and institutions and boosted the level of academic exchange activities between the two countries.

The Fulbright Program offers a full range of academic exchanges and research grants for the development of Canadian Studies in the United States, American Studies in Canada, and studies of the bilateral relationship.

"The Program is based on partnerships with the academic community, the business world and the government sector. Canada and the United States remain strongly committed to the vision of this important program," Mr. Axworthy said.

The agreement that established the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program was first signed in 1990.

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

November 15, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EST)

No. 247

## CANADA IMPLEMENTS UN SANCTIONS ON TALIBAN

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that, as of November 14, Canada has implemented regulations that put into effect sanctions against the Taliban in Afghanistan consistent with UN Security Council (UNSC) resolution 1267 of October 15.

"The Taliban's sponsorship of terrorist activities led to the unanimous adoption of the UNSC resolution and its proposed sanctions," said Mr. Axworthy. "In implementing the sanctions, we are joining the international community's condemnation of the conduct of the Taliban regime."

The UN-sponsored sanctions will freeze Taliban assets and ban flights owned, leased or operated by the Taliban from taking off or landing internationally. Flights that have been approved for humanitarian aims, or for religious purposes such as the Hajj, are exempted.

The sanctions came into effect on November 14, the deadline imposed by the UNSC resolution for the Taliban to co-operate with international efforts to bring indicted terrorists — including Osama bin Laden — to a country where they can be brought to justice. The resolution also demands that the Taliban desist from providing sanctuary and training for international terrorists and their organizations, and ensure that its territory not be used for terrorist installations and camps, or for the preparation or organization of terrorist acts.

- 30 -

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

November 16, 1999

(9:20 a.m. EST)

No. 248

## AXWORTHY TO VISIT KOSOVO AND INAUGURATE CANADIAN OFFICE IN PRISTINA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy will travel to Kosovo on November 17 for a one-day visit en route to Istanbul, where he will attend the Summit of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. Minister Axworthy will preside over the inauguration of the Canadian Government Office in Pristina. Its key functions will be to supervise the disbursement, and ensure the effectiveness, of the \$100 million in funding of new initiatives in support of the rehabilitation of Kosovo and the Balkans, announced by the Government of Canada on November 1. He will also meet with senior international officials and Canadians working in Kosovo.

"Canada has consistently demonstrated our support for the people of the Balkans as they work to create a sustainable peace throughout the region," said Minister Axworthy. "Canadians have made a very important contribution to date in Kosovo in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1244. I will be meeting with senior officials of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo to discuss progress made on issues such as the timing of elections, implementation of the winterization program, the interim civil administration, and the status of the UN Mission's deployment and operations."

The Minister will also meet with leading representatives of the Kosovar Albanian and Serbian communities, including Dr. Ibrahim Rugova, head of the Democratic League of Kosovo, Hashim Thaci, leader of the Party of Democratic Progress, and a senior representative of the Kosovar Serb community. During these meetings, Mr. Axworthy intends to outline the aims of the recently announced Government of Canada priorities in areas of Canadian expertise, such as community-based assistance, democratization, mine action, peacekeeping training, human rights and police peace support.

The Minister will then travel to Glogovac, west of Pristina, where the Canadian Forces Area of Operations within the NATO-led Kosovo Force (KFOR) is located. He will meet with the Commander of the Canadian Contingent to KFOR, Colonel Mike Ward, and with Canadian peacekeeping troops stationed there, in order to see first-hand the important difference Canadian troops are making to the security situation in Kosovo.



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

Canada

Minister Axworthy will finish his Kosovo visit with an aerial tour of a Canadian-funded mine action project, and will meet with representatives of the International Demining Alliance of Canada, which is undertaking this critical work in the area.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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# News Release

November 17, 1999

(9:15 a.m. EST)

No.249

## NEW KOSOVO INITIATIVES UNVEILED AT PRISTINA OFFICE OPENING

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna today announced \$3.7 million for new initiatives in Kosovo in the areas of civil administration, reintegration of former Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) combatants into society, demining, independent media, and helping to facilitate the movement of humanitarian aid.

The announcement was made as Minister Axworthy inaugurated the new Canadian Office in Pristina, which will supervise the disbursement, and ensure the effectiveness, of commitments announced today and those already ongoing in Kosovo.

An initial contribution of \$2 million from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will be made to the Kosovo Consolidated Budget, administered by the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). The major categories of expenditures in the budget are education and health, transfers for social assistance, and civil administration (including police and justice). CIDA also intends to provide UNMIK with \$1 million to purchase fuel for the district heating system in Pristina. Customers include some 12 000 apartments as well as hospitals, schools and administrative buildings.

The International Organization for Migration will receive \$150 000 to facilitate the reintegration of former KLA combatants into society. The contribution will support psycho-social counselling.

"As underlined recently by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the international community has a common interest in ensuring that former KLA combatants reintegrate into society as peaceful, law-abiding and productive citizens," said Mr. Axworthy. "Failure to pay attention to their special circumstances could have a destabilizing effect on an already fragile foundation for peace."

"Today's announcement will help improve the lives of Kosovar children, women and men," said Minister Minna. "We will improve the delivery of humanitarian aid and social services to make sure, for example, that people have heat throughout the winter."



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In concert with steps to be taken by the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), \$300 000 has been committed to expanding the Blace border crossing between Kosovo and FYROM, where the majority of humanitarian and reconstruction cargo enters Kosovo. A plan has been devised to establish a special truck compound for cargo vehicles crossing into Kosovo, where they can be quickly cleared by FYROM authorities.

In response to a request made by the UN Mine Action Co-ordination Centre, the ministers also announced the extension of the work of two Canadian demining teams until December 10. The Canadian International Demining Centre and Wolf's Flat Ordnance Disposal Corp. have cleared 46 schools to date, allowing over 1000 children to safely return to classes. In addition, the International Demining Alliance of Canada has enabled many families to return to their homes. They have also cleared the routes to community wells, power stations and farm complexes.

Finally, \$25 000 was committed to *Koha Ditore*, an independent Albanian-language newspaper in Kosovo, for the purchase of a power generator and two computers. During the recent crisis, *Koha* was the only paper in the region that continued to promote political, inter-ethnic and inter-religious co-operation in Kosovo without compromising its professional standards.

These projects are part of the \$100 million package for Kosovar and Balkan rehabilitation, announced by the Government of Canada on November 1. The initiatives announced today will be funded by CIDA.

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# News Release

November 22, 1999

(4:15 p.m. EST)

No. 250

## AMENDMENTS TO INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY WATERS TREATY ACT TO PROTECT GREAT LAKES FROM BULK WATER REMOVALS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy introduced amendments to the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act today to prohibit bulk removal of water from Canadian boundary waters, including the Great Lakes.

The announcement was made as part of a larger strategy to prohibit bulk water removals, including water for export, from all Canadian water basins.

"We're taking decisive action within our jurisdiction to protect critical boundary waters, for future generations. These amendments will give us the authority to prevent the damage that bulk water removals can cause our environment," said Minister Axworthy.

Environment Minister Anderson said, "These amendments represent an important step towards the protection of Canada's freshwater resources. We know that single and cumulative bulk removals of fresh water can have serious impacts on the environmental, social and economic health of communities and ecosystems that depend on these watersheds. I will be seeking agreement on a Canada-wide accord for the prohibition of bulk water removal from all of Canada's major watersheds when I meet with my provincial and territorial colleagues later this month. This is an environmental issue to be decided by Canadians. We will stop bulk removals at the source, not at the border."

The prohibition on removals will apply principally to the Great Lakes and other boundary waters, such as part of the St. Lawrence River in Ontario, the St. Croix and Upper St. John rivers, and Lake of the Woods. Apart from the prohibition, the amendments introduced today will also set in place a licencing regime for boundary waters projects such as dams, obstructions or other works that can affect water levels and flows.

The amendments are part of a three-pronged strategy announced in February 1999 to prohibit bulk water removals from Canadian water basins. The International Joint Commission (IJC) was asked to examine water uses in the Great Lakes, including bulk water removal. The IJC interim report, released in August, supported an environmental approach, urged a cautious approach to bulk water removal, and also recommended an



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immediate moratorium on bulk water removal from the Great Lakes. Additionally, a Canada-wide accord prohibiting bulk removal of water is being developed with the provinces and territories to ensure protection of Canadian waters.

The International Boundary Waters Treaty Act was passed in 1911, implementing the Canada-U.S. Boundary Waters Treaty signed in 1909. Canada's border is the longest in the world, with over 300 lakes and rivers that either form, cross or straddle it.

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A backgrounder on the amendments is attached.

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This document is also available on the following Web sites:

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/press/>



## **Background**

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY WATERS TREATY ACT (IBWTA)**

Canadians are looking to all levels of government to take action to assure the long-term security and integrity of Canada's freshwater resources. As we pass into the 21st century, federal, provincial and territorial governments need to co-operate to ensure a coherent and effective policy that preserves freshwater resources. Today the federal government is taking action in its area of jurisdiction.

#### **What Do the Amendments Do?**

The principal effect of the proposed amendments to the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act is to prohibit bulk water removal from boundary waters between Canada and the U.S., especially the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes and other boundary waters will now have protection from bulk removals under federal law. This is significant because the Great Lakes are of sufficient size to attract developers of bulk removal, including for the purposes of export, or diversions schemes. The federal government is taking action within its jurisdiction to ensure that the freshwater resources of Canadians are protected from exploitation and environmental damage caused by bulk removal of water.

Under the 1909 Canada-U.S. Boundary Waters Treaty and the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act, the federal government has jurisdiction over boundary waters, such as the Great Lakes, in order to fulfill Canada's obligation under the Treaty not to affect unilaterally the level and flow of waters on the U.S. side of the boundary. The amendments would give the Minister of Foreign Affairs the authority to:

- impose a prohibition on removals of boundary waters out of their water basins. Exceptions will be considered, such as ballast water, short-term humanitarian purposes and water used in the production of food or beverages (e.g. bottled water);
- introduce a licencing system, separate from the prohibition, formalizing a 90-year-old process under which the federal government and the International Joint Commission (IJC) have examined and approved certain projects, such as dams and obstructions, under the provisions of the Treaty. The licencing system would not cover ordinary municipal, industrial or agricultural uses.

#### **What About Protecting All of Canada's Water Resources?**

On February 10, 1999, the federal government announced a three-part strategy to prohibit the bulk removal of water from all Canadian water basins. Over the past eight months there has been significant progress:

- The federal government promised to take action within its jurisdiction by introducing the amendments to the IBWTA. This was done today.
- A proposal was made to develop, in co-operation with the provinces and territories, a Canada-wide accord to prohibit bulk water removals. This would apply to all waters. Each level of government would take appropriate action within its jurisdiction. Some provinces have already taken, or are in the process of taking, similar measures. The Minister of the Environment will be seeking endorsement of the accord by all provinces and territories at the end of November.
- Canada and the U.S. agreed to a joint reference to the IJC on consumptive uses, diversions and removals of Great Lakes waters, including for the purposes of export. An interim report on the Great Lakes, released in August 1999, was generally supportive of an environmental approach, urged a cautious approach to bulk water removal or export projects, and called for an immediate six-month moratorium pending the final report in February 2000. The amendments to the Act and the federal strategy are consistent with these recommendations.

### **Prohibition of Bulk Water Removal from Water Basins Versus an Export Ban: Which is the Better Approach?**

There is a consensus among Canadians that freshwater resources need protection from bulk removals. What is the best way of achieving this goal?

Prohibiting bulk water removal from water basins is better than an export ban because it is more comprehensive, environmentally sound, respects constitutional responsibilities and is consistent with Canada's international trade obligations.

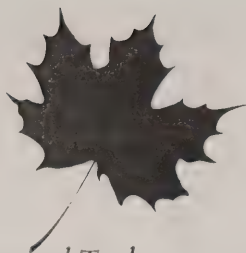
- Water is protected in its water basin, before the issue of exporting arises. This is an environmental protection measure of general application, aimed at preserving the integrity of ecosystems.
- Under the Canada-wide accord, each level of government has a responsibility and each level must take action. Sovereign control over water as a natural resource rests with Canadian, not foreign, governments.
- Water is regulated in its natural state, *before* it has become a commercial good or a saleable commodity. This is consistent with Canada's international trade obligations.

An export ban may appear to be a quick and simple solution. However, it does not focus on the environmental dimension, has possible constitutional limitations, and may

be vulnerable to a trade challenge. An export ban would focus on water once it has become a good and therefore subject to international trade agreements. Because these agreements limit the ability of governments to control the export of goods, a ban on exports is likely to be contrary to Canada's international trade obligations. This contrasts sharply with the federal government's approach.







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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

November 23, 1999

(1:05 EST)

No. 251

## CANADA TAKES STEPS TO PURSUE BRAZILIAN COMPLIANCE WITH WTO RULING ON REGIONAL AIRCRAFT

Canada will ask the WTO to determine whether Brazil has fully implemented a WTO ruling that ordered Brazil to withdraw prohibited subsidies of regional aircraft, International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew announced today.

At Canada's request, consultations were held with Brazil on November 16 and 19 to discuss implementation.

"Our consultations, and the information that Brazil gave to the WTO, do not indicate that Brazil has brought Proex funding into compliance with the ruling. If a WTO panel confirms Brazil's non-compliance, and consultations do not produce an acceptable outcome, Canada will seek WTO authorization to retaliate," said Minister Pettigrew.

In August 1999, a WTO Appellate Body agreed with Canada's complaint that Brazil was providing a prohibited export subsidy through Proex, a program that offers substantially reduced interest rates to clients of the Brazilian aircraft manufacturer, Embraer.

The WTO also ruled that Technology Partnerships Canada (TPC) and Canada Account were prohibited subsidies as applied to regional aircraft. Since then, Canada has amended TPC and Minister Pettigrew has issued a guideline specifying that all Canada Account transactions must be in accordance with the OECD Consensus, thereby ensuring both are compliant with Canada's WTO obligations.

Minister Pettigrew noted that Canada's preference is that Brazil fully comply with the WTO ruling and said that Canada is prepared to work with Brazil to achieve this. Taking action by the WTO deadline of November 23 preserves Canada's right to retaliate, should the WTO confirm that Brazil has not implemented the ruling.

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For background information please refer to press releases of August 2, 1999, and November 18, 1999, found on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Web site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

November 23, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EST)

No. 252

## CANADA CONTRIBUTES TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today remitted Canada's contribution of \$333 000 to the International Fund for Ireland (IFI), in support of international peacebuilding efforts in Ireland. This contribution constitutes the first instalment of yearly contributions to total \$1 million over three years, to which Canada committed on June 10, 1999.

Minister Axworthy handed the cheque to IFI Chairman William McCarter, following a meeting which was also attended by Ireland's Ambassador to Canada, Mr. Paul Dempsey, and Pat O'Brien, Member of Parliament for London-Fanshawe and Chair of the Canada-Ireland Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group.

"The International Fund for Ireland has been in the vanguard of efforts to build safer communities and to promote intercommunity links and dialogue, both within Ireland's borders and across them," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada is encouraged by recent positive statements made by the pro-peace parties, which show that trust between them is growing. We hope they will continue down the courageous and promising path they have embarked on by seizing the best opportunity they have right now for peace."

Established in 1986 by the British and Irish governments, the IFI promotes economic and social advances and encourages contact, dialogue and reconciliation throughout Ireland and Northern Ireland. The Fund focusses on economic and social development, with an emphasis on local business initiatives and training.

Among the wide range of IFI projects are initiatives that provide opportunities for young people from disadvantaged communities to take part in training and work programs aimed at future employment and education. For example, the Fund's Wider Horizons program has enabled a number of disadvantaged youths to upgrade their skills in Canada in order to find employment upon their return home. Activities also include urban and rural development, tourism development and community-led initiatives.

Canada has already contributed more than \$4 million to the IFI since it was established. The Fund is also supported by Australia, New Zealand, the United States and the European Union.



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Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1999 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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# News Release

November 24, 1999

(4:00 p.m.)

No. 253

## CANADA TO HOST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WAR-AFFECTED CHILDREN IN 2000

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna today announced that Canada will host an international conference on war-affected children in 2000. The announcement was made in Montreal at the "Children's Rights in the New Millennium" conference. Next year's gathering will be held ten years after entry into force of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

"Three years ago, Graça Machel presented to the UN General Assembly a ground-breaking study on the impact of armed conflict on children," said Minister Axworthy. "In it, she detailed the tragedies faced by war-affected children and recommended that a conference on the subject be held in 2000. I am pleased to announce that Canada will respond to this human security challenge. We will use the gathering to formulate a comprehensive, global plan of action to address the full range of problems and offer potential solutions for children affected by conflict."

"This conference will focus on all children affected by war," said Minister Minna. "This would include, among others, children from East Timor who have lost access to schools and health clinics, ethnic Albanian children traumatized by conflict in Kosovo, or child soldiers in Sierra Leone who have been exploited and forced to commit atrocities against their families or people in their communities."

Ministers Axworthy and Minna noted that UN agencies, governments, non-governmental organizations, civil society and youth from all regions of the world will be invited to attend the conference.

The conference on war-affected children is one of a series dealing with children's issues. In spring 2000, Canada and Ghana will co-host a conference on the protection of war-affected children. Other agenda items will include the impact of small arms on children and their communities and practical and sustainable commitments to rehabilitate and reintegrate children affected by conflict. These events will contribute to Canada's preparations for the 2001 UN General Assembly Special Session on Children, which will review the achievements of the goals of the 1990 World Summit for Children.



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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

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www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

November 25, 1999

(9:00 a.m. EST)

No. 254

## DUHAMEL TO PRESIDE AT 14TH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF LA FRANCOPHONIE IN PARIS

Secretary of State (Western Economic Diversification) (Francophonie), Ronald J. Duhamel announced today that he will preside at the 14th Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie, taking place in Paris on November 29 and 30.

This conference is the first meeting to follow up on the decisions made at the Moncton Summit and included in the Declaration and Action Plan adopted by the Heads of State and Government in New Brunswick last September.

"The Moncton Summit has clearly contributed to providing renewed momentum to the international Francophonie and I am particularly proud of the manner in which youth from all over the world participated in the event," said Mr. Duhamel. "The leaders now have the responsibility to pursue the initiatives started in Moncton on what could and should be a political Francophonie centred on human rights, democratization and the rule of law."

The agenda of the Paris conference includes approval of the programming of the Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie for the years 2000 and 2001. The programs will be delivered in five areas of priority intervention: peacebuilding, democracy and the rule of law; linguistic and cultural diversity; education and training; economic co-operation; and new information and communications technologies.

"In 1999 we are celebrating the French Canadian Heritage and I am determined to pursue the objectives reached by the Canadian delegation in Moncton, notably by highlighting the French community in Canada and the richness of our culture," added Mr. Duhamel.

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

November 25, 1999

(4:30 p.m. EST)

No. 255

## CANADA WELCOMES RENEWED EFFORTS TOWARD PEACE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the latest developments in the quest for lasting peace in Northern Ireland. Over the past several weeks, the high level of determination shown by the pro-peace parties to reach mutual understanding has encouraged all who have contributed to the effort to bring peace to Northern Ireland.

"It has been a long and arduous path and the journey is not yet concluded," said Mr. Axworthy. "Although there are now grounds for cautious optimism, there are still some hurdles to overcome. Canada lauds the political courage of all those involved."

In the next few days, the Ulster Unionist Party will consider how it should continue to be engaged in the process. "Canada hopes the Ulster Unionist Council will take fully into consideration the courageous steps taken to reach accommodation on profoundly difficult issues," added Mr. Axworthy.

"We are also conscious of the terrible price the people of all communities have paid as a result of the violence of the past three decades. The people of Northern Ireland deserve the same peace and prosperity that others enjoy. Canada has supported and continues to support the Good Friday process. General de Chastelain has been an outstanding public servant whose role as Chairman of the Decommissioning Body will be central in taking the decommissioning process forward," the Minister said.

"Senator Mitchell and the parties to the Good Friday Agreement have worked tirelessly to lay the groundwork for the establishment of an inclusive Executive in Northern Ireland and an end to the conflict that has gripped the province for three decades," concluded Mr. Axworthy.

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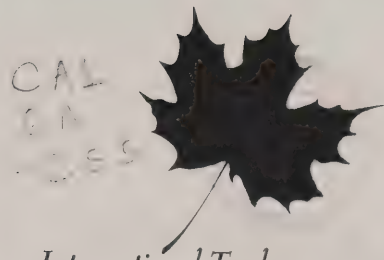
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# News Release

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

**November 26, 1999**

**(10:25 a.m. EST)**

**No. 256**

## **CANADA AND CHINA SIGN HISTORIC BILATERAL WTO AGREEMENT**

Minister for International Trade Pierre S. Pettigrew today announced that Canada and China have reached an agreement on a wide range of market access issues related to China's entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO). Mr. Pettigrew signed the agreement today in Toronto with Chinese Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation Shi Guangsheng.

"This agreement is good news for both Canada and China," said Mr. Pettigrew. "It provides significant access to the Chinese market for not only large, but also small and medium-sized Canadian enterprises, and brings China one step closer to membership in the WTO."

In the agreement, China, Canada's fourth largest trading partner, has committed to reducing tariffs on imports of Canadian industrial products and to liberalizing access into China's burgeoning services market, including telecommunications and financial services. China will also significantly improve access for many agricultural goods, including canola, canola oil, wheat, barley and malt. These commitments will come into effect once China is admitted to the WTO.

"This agreement will open doors for our goods and services and dramatically increase our growing presence in China, a valuable market of 1.2 billion people," said Raymond Chan, Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific).

In 1998, Canada's exports to China were valued at \$2.5 billion. The top export items in 1998 were: various grains, seeds and fruits, wood pulp, cereals and fertilizers, accounting for over 55 percent of all Canadian exports to China.

China must still complete negotiations in Geneva on an overall framework to finalize its entry into the WTO. It must also negotiate a number of bilateral market access agreements with other WTO members.

"Canada has always been a strong supporter of China's accession to the WTO," said Minister Pettigrew. "We look forward to playing a constructive role in helping complete China's accession."



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Next week, Mr. Pettigrew will discuss the possibility of launching a new round of WTO negotiations when he attends a meeting of the world's trade ministers in Seattle, Washington.

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A backgrounder on the Agreement is attached.

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## Backgrounder

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CANADA-CHINA BILATERAL WTO AGREEMENT

The Canada-China agreement covers agricultural products, industrial products, and all service sectors, and comes into effect after China officially joins the WTO. A separate understanding was reached on key sanitary and phytosanitary issues affecting trade in agricultural goods.

#### Goods Summary

- Canada negotiated tariff reductions on a wide range of Canadian priority industrial and agricultural goods, which had an export value of \$1.5 billion in 1998.
- China's tariffs on Canadian priority goods will fall from an average of 12.5 percent to an average of 5.2 percent over an average period of two and a half years. For those high-tech products covered by the International Telecommunications Agreement (such as telecommunications equipment), China will eliminate all tariffs within five years.

#### Agriculture

- China will significantly improve access for imports of canola, canola oil, wheat, barley, malt, feed peas, alfalfa pellets, North American ginseng and whiskey.
- In a limited number of sensitive sectors, China will adopt tariff rate quotas (TRQ). Under a TRQ, a low tariff is established on import volumes up to a certain level, after which a higher tariff is triggered.
- Only two Canadian priorities will be affected by TRQs:
  - *Canola Oil*: The TRQ, which will be eliminated within six years, will start at 600 000 tons upon accession and will rise to 1.13 million tons in five years. Canola oil will face the same tariff level as its main competing oil, soyabean oil. No TRQ will apply to canola seed.
  - *Wheat*: The TRQ is 7.3 million tonnes, rising to 9.3 million tonnes within four years.
- *Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Issues*: In parallel with the WTO accession negotiations, a separate understanding was reached between the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and China's State Administration on Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine on longstanding Canadian concerns about Chinese

SPS rules affecting Canadian exports of beef, pork, poultry and seed potatoes. China agreed to a clear timetable for addressing these concerns on the basis of sound science.

### **Industrial Goods**

- The average tariff for Canadian industrial products, including paper products, chemicals and aerospace products, will fall from 10.3 to 4.5 percent over an average of 2.8 years.
- China will participate in the International Telecommunications Agreement and eliminate all tariffs on products covered by this agreement.
- *Potash*: Potash exports amounted to \$258 million in 1998, making it Canada's largest non-agricultural export to China. China will guarantee its current interim tariff on potash, and remove its import quota and import licencing requirements.

### **Services**

- China will provide improved access to foreign service suppliers in a wide range of service sectors. In those sectors where they have made commitments, China has agreed not to make the operating environment for current service suppliers more restrictive ("grandfathering"). This will protect Canadian service providers currently authorized to operate in these sectors in China from additional restrictions.

### **Telecommunications Services**

- China made commitments in all telecommunications services – fixed, wireless, and satellite – with time and geographic phase-in provisions.
- China will allow foreign investment through joint ventures. China will allow 49 percent foreign investment in all telecommunications services and will allow 50 percent ownership for value added and paging services.
- China will sign the entire Reference Paper on Regulatory Principles for Basic Telecommunications.

### **Financial Services**

- China will provide significant liberalization for banking and life insurance.

- *Banking*: China will remove all geographic and customer restrictions over five years. Foreign banks can engage in local and foreign currency business anywhere in China with both Chinese and foreign customers.
- *Life Insurance*: China will gradually lift geographic restrictions, expand the scope of activities of foreign insurers, and allow 50 percent foreign ownership. Licences will be awarded solely on the basis of prudential requirements; there will be no economic needs test.
- *Securities*: Foreign firms will be allowed to form joint ventures to provide fund management services. Equity limits will rise from 33 to 49 percent within three years.

### **Professional Services and Engineering Consulting Services**

- China will also remove many of the restrictions which currently limit foreign provision of legal services, engineering consulting services, and other professional services.

### **Environmental Services**

- China will allow foreign investment in this sector and will not discriminate against foreign suppliers of environmental services.

### **Distribution (including both wholesaling and retailing)**

- China made significant commitments to liberalize distribution (and auxiliary activities such as freight forwarding, advertising, and technical testing and analysis) which will facilitate Canadian business interests in China. China will not maintain minimum capital requirements in this sector, which means China's rules will not discriminate against small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). China also agreed to allow foreigners to distribute fertilizer within five years.

### **What Happens Next?**

China will have to complete negotiations on systemic issues and finalize the Protocol of Accession in the WTO Working Party on China. At the same time, bilateral negotiations will continue with WTO members who have not reached agreement with China. Once both the multilateral and bilateral negotiations are complete to the satisfaction of all members of the WTO, China will be able to enter this organization as a full member.





# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

November 26, 1999

(2:00 p.m. EST)

No. 257

## AXWORTHY SUPPORTS OSCE MISSION TO MOSCOW ON CHECHNYA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today expressed support for the November 29 mission to Moscow being undertaken by Knut Vollebaek, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Chairman-in-Office and Norwegian Foreign Minister, for the purpose of discussing Chechnya. Minister Vollebaek will meet with Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov to discuss humanitarian and political approaches to resolving the current conflict.

"It is very important that Russia open the door to closer co-operation with the OSCE on ending the conflict in Chechnya," said Mr. Axworthy. "It was agreed at the Istanbul Summit that a political solution was essential, and that the OSCE could contribute to achieving this goal."

The Chairman-in-Office's visit to Moscow represents one of the commitments for action on Chechnya contained in the OSCE's Istanbul Summit Declaration. Mr. Vollebaek is expected to visit the North Caucasus region on a subsequent trip to Russia.

"Political dialogue on Chechnya has to include President Maskhadov, whose election was monitored by the OSCE with the consent of the Russian government," said Mr. Axworthy. "The Chairman-in-Office and the OSCE Assistance Group also need full access to the region, including Chechnya, to meet the commitments made at Istanbul."

The Minister welcomed Mr. Vollebaek's visit as an opportunity to reinforce the presence of humanitarian organizations in the region, and expressed the hope that the Chairman-in-Office would be able to achieve a promise of full and unfettered humanitarian access from the Russian authorities. Mr. Axworthy had raised this issue forcefully at the OSCE meetings in Istanbul, as well as in his bilateral meeting with Mr. Ivanov. UN agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and others are seeking to establish distribution networks that are autonomous of state control, as they do in conflict zones the world over.



Minister Axworthy also called on Russia to facilitate an early visit by the Chairman-in-Office to the North Caucasus region, including Chechnya.

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-ma-eci.gc.ca

November 26, 1999

(4:20 p.m. EST)

No. 258

## MINISTERS ANNOUNCE CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF WTO NEGOTIATIONS

The Government of Canada will conduct a detailed review of the environmental impact of the next round of World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations, International Trade Minister Pierre S. Pettigrew and Environment Minister David Anderson announced today. The review will be conducted as WTO negotiations proceed.

The first phase of the review, a retrospective analysis of the 1994 review of the Uruguay Round, was released today and concludes that trade liberalization did not affect Canada's ability to regulate for environmental protection.

The second phase of the review will consist of developing a process to assess the next round, and the third will be the actual detailed analysis of environmental impacts. The environmental review will include full and broad public participation throughout the process.

"Canadians have told us that protecting the environment is a priority when developing public policy, and we are responding to that concern," said Minister Anderson. "Our actions demonstrate Canada's commitment to ensuring that the global trading system reflects our economic, environmental and social objectives."

"Trade and environmental policies can and should be mutually supportive," said Minister Pettigrew. "We are asking Canadians to help us with this environmental review. Our consultations will be open to all Canadians, including parliamentarians, business, and non-governmental organizations."

The review will be part of Canada's overall strategy for including environmental considerations in the new round of WTO trade negotiations. The strategy has various components which include:

- safeguarding Canada's right to regulate to protect the environment;
- ensuring that environmental considerations are factored into trade negotiations by having the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment act as a forum for these issues;



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- clarifying the relationship between WTO rules and multilateral environmental agreements;
- strengthening co-operation between the WTO and the United Nations Environment Program;
- seeking to reduce or eliminate environmentally damaging subsidies; and
- maintaining existing provisions that allow for the use of subsidies to facilitate higher environmental standards.

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For more information about the upcoming WTO environmental assessment, Canada's overall approach to trade and environment in the WTO round, or the retrospective analysis of the Uruguay Round, visit the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/social-e.asp#environment>

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# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

November 30, 1999

(12:30 p.m. EST)

No. 259

## DUHAMEL PLEASED WITH DECISIONS MADE AT THE 14TH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF LA FRANCOPHONIE

Secretary of State (Western Economic Diversification) (Francophonie), Ronald J. Duhamel, today expressed, in a press conference held in Paris, his great satisfaction with the results of the 14th Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie, which took place in the French capital on November 29 and 30. The press conference, closing the two-day meeting, was co-presided by Mr. Duhamel and the Secretary-General of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

Mr. Duhamel, who was presiding at this follow-up conference to the Moncton Summit, summarized the highlights of the decisions made by the ministers and heads of delegation:

- to hold a "Women, power and development" conference dedicated to Francophone women, in Luxembourg, on February 4 and 5, 2000;
- to hold an international symposium on the results of democratic practices, rights and liberties in Francophone communities in the last quarter of 2000;
- to hold a Ministerial Conference on Culture early in 2001; and
- to continue the Francophone dialogue on cultural diversity initiated this fall in preparation for the World Trade Organization round of negotiations.

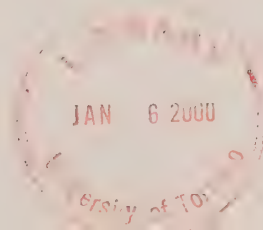
"The Canadian government is of the opinion that dialogue is part of La Francophonie," said Mr. Duhamel. "We are determined to pursue our active participation and our contribution to developing such themes as cultural diversity, democracy and development."

"I am also pleased with the adoption, by the Conference, of the programming of La Francophonie, which was set out in Moncton for the next two years, and of which one third of the projects are youth orientated," concluded Mr. Duhamel.



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The Ministerial Conference also applauded the progress of the reform process of the Agence intergouvernementale de La Francophonie.

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# *News Release*

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

**December 1, 1999**

**(12:00 p.m. EST)**

**No. 260**

## **PETTIGREW TO CHAIR WORKING GROUP ON TRADE AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

International Trade Minister Pierre S. Pettigrew today announced that Canada has been asked to chair a World Trade Organization (WTO) working group that will examine how existing Uruguay Round agreements are implemented and can work better for developing countries.

United States Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, chair of the Seattle ministerial meeting, and Mike Moore, Director General of the WTO, asked Mr. Pettigrew to take on the new role.

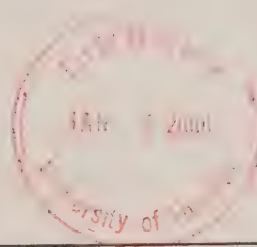
Canada's role as chair of the Working Group on Implementation means that Minister Pettigrew will work closely with the conference chair and the director general of the WTO in ensuring the success of the Seattle ministerial conference on one of its most complex issues.

"Canada has been offered the opportunity to play a constructive role in helping developing nations to better benefit from their WTO membership," said Minister Pettigrew. "We will work with great energy to narrow differences between members this week. This issue is not only central to reaching consensus at the WTO, but is a concern to citizens in many of our members' countries."

Implementation is considered one of the most difficult issues assigned to working groups at the WTO because it covers every existing Uruguay Round agreement, and because the group will be open to all members.

Other working groups created so far are related to market access, agriculture, and competition policy.

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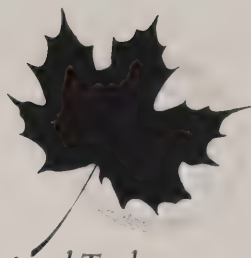
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# News Release

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

December 1, 1999

(12:10 p.m. EST)

No. 261

## **CANADA TO CONTRIBUTE \$1.5 MILLION TO CREATE ADVISORY CENTRE ON WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION LAW TO ASSIST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

The Government of Canada today announced its support for an agreement creating the Advisory Centre on World Trade Organization Law. On behalf of Canada, International Trade Minister Pierre S. Pettigrew will join trade ministers from over 20 countries in signing the agreement in Seattle today.

In Ottawa, Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna announced Canada's contribution of \$1.5 million to the Centre, which will provide training and legal assistance to developing countries to better enable them to participate in World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute resolution processes and understand their WTO rights and obligations.

"A credible world trading system must offer equal opportunities for participation to all of its members. Canada is proud to be a founding member of the WTO Law Advisory Centre. It's part of our commitment to a universal, rules-based trade system," said Minister Pettigrew.

"The creation of the Centre is a concrete example of the importance of the WTO and the positive impact it can have on developing countries," said Minister Minna. "The Centre will help ensure that developing countries have the necessary knowledge to compete in the international marketplace."

The WTO is a complex system for ensuring open and fair trading practices, with a binding dispute settlement mechanism to ensure compliance. Meaningful participation in the WTO requires a good understanding of its rules and the ability to access its dispute settlement mechanisms. Many members face considerable obstacles to full participation due to lack of expertise and financial resources in this specific field of international law.

The Centre will be established in Geneva as an international organization, independent of the WTO. Its mandate will be to complement training and technical co-operation



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provided by the WTO Secretariat. The Centre will organize seminars on WTO law, and internships will be open to government officials from developing countries. It will also be available to provide support throughout specific dispute settlement proceedings.

The aim is to have the Centre operational toward the end of 2000.

Funding for the initiative announced today was provided for in the February 1999 federal budget for the Canadian International Development Agency and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> and on the Internet site for the Canadian International Development Agency: <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca>



# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

December 1, 1999

(3:50 p.m. EST)

No. 262

## AXWORTHY MARKS LANDMINE ANNIVERSARY IN OTTAWA

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he will host and participate in key events related to landmines from December 1 to 3 in Ottawa, to mark the second anniversary of the signing of the Ottawa Convention. The events include today's release of the 1998-99 annual report on the Canada Landmine Fund, a mine action exhibition, and the inaugural dinner of the Canadian Landmine Foundation.

"These events will highlight our success in increasing global support for the ban on landmines, to which more than two thirds of the world's nations are already adhering, as well as the need to continue to work toward its ultimate aim," said Mr. Axworthy.

"Canada has been successful at raising awareness and establishing an international code of conduct with respect to landmines. We will continue to lead international efforts to ensure the global removal of mines and the destruction of stockpiles, and to assist victims."

Today, the Minister tabled the first annual report on the Canadian Landmine Fund. The report, entitled *Seeds of Terror, Seeds of Hope*, documents Canada's 1998-99 investments in addressing the landmine crisis. The \$100 million Fund, which is administered by four government departments, was announced in December 1997.

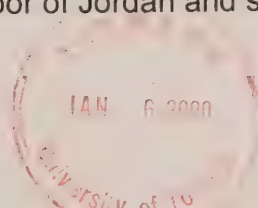
Mr. Axworthy will open a mine action exhibition organized by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Canadian Red Cross and Mines Action Canada on December 2. The exhibition, entitled *Ban Landmines 99*, will be open to the public and will include the participation of a range of Canadian and international organizations working with Canada in the global struggle against landmines. The exhibition will feature a simulated mined village that will recreate the plight of refugees returning to a town that has been mined, and will include mine dog demonstrations. The exhibition will also feature a cyber-café with multimedia interaction on the landmine issue, a mine action film festival, and a speakers corner including presentations and panel discussions by prominent mine action experts and advocates.

On the morning of December 3, the Minister will address The National Press Club. Later in the day, he will accompany Queen Noor of Jordan and several other special



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guests to the landmine exhibition, and attend the Canadian Landmine Foundation inaugural dinner to commemorate the second anniversary of the Ottawa Convention. The evening will be hosted by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson and will include other prominent guests such as U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy, philanthropist George Soros and International Campaign to Ban Landmines Ambassador Jody Williams.

The Anti-Personnel Mine Convention, commonly known as the Ottawa Convention, first opened for signature in Ottawa on December 3 and 4, 1997, and entered into force on March 1, 1999. To date it has been signed or acceded to by 136 countries and ratified by 89.

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# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

December 1, 1999

( 4:10 p.m. EST)

No. 263

## CANADA'S EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF THE PEACE PROCESS IN SUDAN

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Senator Lois Wilson, Canada's special envoy to the Sudan Peace Process, and John Harker, special advisor on African issues, will both embark on independent missions to Sudan in the near future.

"As a partner to the Inter Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Canada's efforts focus on the reinvigoration of the peace process," said Mr. Axworthy. "Senator Wilson will continue consultations with Canadian NGOs and academic representatives, the Sudanese community in Canada and countries that support the mediation process, as well as with both the government and the armed opposition of Sudan."

Senator Wilson is expected to travel to Sudan and Kenya in the near future. Prior to her departure, she will meet in Ottawa with Bethuel Kipligat, a Kenyan civil society leader and specialist on regional peace issues. During the week of December 13, she will also meet with Dr. Haruun Ruun and Telar Ring Deng, both representatives of the New Sudan Council of Churches (NSCC), and Sudanese officials to discuss the situation in Sudan. The NSCC's activities include peacebuilding and co-ordinating church development work. It also works with IGAD for north-south solutions.

Mr. Harker's mission, due to begin on December 3, will assess the human rights situation, and examine the reported link of human rights violations and Canadian private sector activities, as well as investigate allegations of slavery in Sudan. His mission team leaves today and includes independent experts in field research, human rights and humanitarian law. They will travel to Khartoum and accessible regions, including oil fields, and will then proceed to southern Sudan. Mr. Harker's findings will be presented to Minister Axworthy early next year.

"We remain deeply concerned about reports directly linking private sector interests to the violation of human rights and humanitarian law in Sudan," said Mr. Axworthy. "It is important to independently examine, from a Canadian perspective, suggestions that conflict in Sudan is exacerbated by resource development."



Canada's commitment to human security guides its involvement in Sudan, particularly with respect to the protection of civilians in armed conflict. Canada's policy on Sudan includes supporting the multilateral peace process, maintaining limited engagement with the Government of Sudan, addressing human rights concerns, supporting civil society, and continuing dialogue with the private sector and non-governmental organizations.

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A backgrounder on Canada's Sudan Policy is attached to press release No. 232 and is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Web site.

# News Release

December 4, 1999

(5:30 a.m. EST)

No. 264

## STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ON THE SUSPENSION OF WTO TALKS IN SEATTLE

The following is a joint statement issued by International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew and Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief late Friday night from Seattle.

Canada is very disappointed that attempts to launch a new round of global trade talks at the World Trade Organization have been suspended. Discussions are already under way on when talks should resume, and Canada believes that the foundation has been laid for a future agreement.

Important progress was made on agriculture, on issues relating to least-developed countries, and on other important topics. This progress has been locked in and will not be lost. Negotiations on agriculture and services, mandated in the last round, will proceed in January 2000, in Geneva.

Over the last few days in Seattle, Canada held its position on every key area. Canada made it clear to its citizens that it would seek trade agreements that would contribute to its economic growth, advance its vital social interests, and open up the system to greater scrutiny and participation. We held firm to those goals in Seattle and are still committed to them.

No single issue led to this suspension. It was the culmination of complex issues and processes.

Canada played a major role at these talks in a very difficult and complex negotiation. We worked tirelessly to find a mix that would advance Canadian interests, but also benefit the world's poorest nations. We are looking forward to the time when talks can resume and the next steps can be taken.

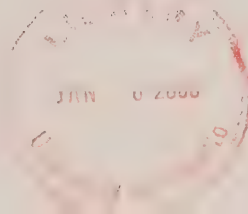
The Government of Canada also looks forward to continuing the dialogue with Canadians on trade that had begun before Seattle and continued throughout the conference. The advantages of an open and rules-based global trading system are clear and irrefutable. We are committed to moving forward.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site at <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> and on Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's site at <http://www.agr.ca>



# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

December 7, 1999

(4:45 p.m. EST)

No. 265

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE EMPLOYEES WIN CANADIAN PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and International Trade Minister Pierre S. Pettigrew today commended several employees of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade for their outstanding achievements. The employees are winners of the Head of the Public Service Award.

Canadian and locally engaged staff at the Canadian High Commission in Kenya won an award for delivering assistance in a highly professional manner and under extremely stressful conditions, in the aftermath of the terrorist bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi. High Commission personnel worked tirelessly to assist international partners who were dealing with psychological and ongoing physical threats. They also helped local authorities, provided nursing assistance, conducted hospital visits and performed countless other duties during the crisis.

H.G. Pardy, Director General of Consular Affairs, received an award for his leadership, vision and commitment in his service to Canadians living and travelling abroad. In many instances, he is directly involved in the negotiations of difficult cases involving kidnappings, child abductions and civil and natural disasters. Under his direction, the Consular Affairs Bureau became a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week response centre for service to Canadians around the world. He is instrumental in the delivery of the Travel Information Program, consisting of 217 country-specific reports providing safety conditions and information on health, insurance, visas and telecommunications.

Bruce Howard, at the Canadian Embassy in Beijing, and Randall Nelson, Trade Policy Officer, were among a group of recipients from several federal departments who were presented with an award for containing the spread of the Asian longhorn beetle in Canada. As a result of their quick action, Canada's hardwood forests have been protected.

The second annual Head of the Public Service Awards were presented yesterday by the Clerk of the Privy Council, Mel Cappe. Any employee of the Public Service of Canada can nominate another employee or group of employees, regardless of the level



or department of either party. Winners are selected by a committee of representatives from federal government departments and associations. Twenty awards were given out this year.

- 30 -

Backgrounders are attached.

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## **Backgrounder**

### **CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN KENYA**

In the aftermath of the terrorist bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi in August 1998, Canadian and locally engaged staff of the Canadian High Commission in Kenya are credited with delivering services in a highly professional manner under extremely stressful conditions, and in spite of increased personal security risk.

In addition to performing their regular duties, High Commission personnel worked tirelessly to assist international partners who were dealing with psychological and ongoing physical threats. They also helped local authorities, provided nursing assistance, collected blankets, conducted hospital visits and performed countless other duties during the crisis.

The bomb's blast measured over 4.0 on the Richter scale and left a crater 10 feet deep and 40 feet wide. It killed 213 people and wounded almost 5000. The High Commission staff offered immediate assistance and dedicated support on a 24-hour basis.

## **Backgrounder**

### **H.G. PARDY**

Since assuming the position of Director General of Consular Affairs in 1995, H.G. Pardy has demonstrated leadership, commitment and compassion in his service to Canadians travelling and living abroad. Over two million Canadians annually require assistance from consular staff in over 250 points of service worldwide.

Under his direction, the Consular Affairs Bureau became a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week response centre for service to Canadians around the world. It is the heart of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's response to international crises, emergencies and natural disasters outside of Canada.

Mr. Pardy's vision inspired the development of a series of safe-travel publications for Canadians travelling abroad. He oversees the Travel Information Program, consisting of 217 country-specific reports which include the general safety conditions of a foreign country and crucial information on health, insurance, visas and telecommunications.

He was instrumental in expanding the honorary consul program, which has increased access to consular services for Canadians around the world, regardless of their location.

Mr. Pardy takes a personal interest in sensitive and difficult consular cases, such as recent kidnappings in Africa and South America, child abduction cases and civil and natural disasters.

As a testament to his achievements, Mr. Pardy's nomination for this award came from the employees of his bureau, who feel that he is the embodiment of what every public servant should strive to be.



## **Backgrounder**

### **ASIAN LONGHORN BEETLE PROJECT**

The Asian longhorn beetle is a serious pest that attacks hardwood trees in China. Its menace is spreading as it stows away in packing crates used in shipments around the world. If the beetle becomes established in North America, maple and other broadleaf tree species may be devastated, since the beetle has few natural predators on this continent.

A team of federal government inspection officers, scientists, researchers, administrators, policy advisers, trade officers and public relations specialists were instrumental in containing the spread of the Asian longhorn beetle in Canada. As a result of their quick action, Canada's hardwood forests have been protected.

State and federal agencies in the U.S. have been forced to remove thousands of trees as part of an aggressive survey and eradication program. But, in Canada, the team of federal employees was quick to spot the beetles upon their arrival at the port of Vancouver and ports in southern Ontario, and moved quickly to contain the spread of this pest. Their work stands as a model of close interdepartmental co-operation in addressing an issue of national importance.

In Canada, the decision to require all solid wood cargo crating from China to be treated with heat or chemicals has already resulted in the interception of more than 20 species of invasive, non-native insects, including the Asian longhorn beetle. However, the team's impact on policy development reaches far beyond Canada's borders. The United States and Mexico have joined with Canada to establish a new standard that would require all non-manufactured wood packing materials entering North America to be treated, to eliminate pests.



# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

December 9, 1999

(3:30 p.m. EST)

No. 266

## AXWORTHY TO TRAVEL TO EUROPE FOR YOUTH, NATO AND G-8 EVENTS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he will travel to Europe to participate in an educational event and two multilateral meetings. His first stop will be London on December 14. The Minister will then proceed to Brussels for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Foreign Ministers Meeting on December 15 and 16. In Berlin, his last stop, he will attend the Group of Eight (G-8) Ministerial Conference on Conflict Prevention on December 16 and 17.

In London, Minister Axworthy will meet with Robin Cook, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs. Both Ministers will then officially launch Youth Links, a new Web-based learning tool on international issues that will link designated high school students in Canada with their counterparts in Europe. Mr. Axworthy will also participate in a roundtable with members of the Association of Foreign Affairs Correspondents and deliver an address to the Royal United Services Institute.

Minister Axworthy will then proceed to Brussels. On December 15, he will sign a Joint Declaration on the Strengthening of the Bilateral relations between Canada and Belgium with his Belgian counterpart, Louis Michel. He will also attend the first NATO Foreign Ministers meeting since last June, when the NATO-led Kosovo peacekeeping force (KFOR) first deployed to Kosovo. The NATO foreign ministers' agenda includes a review of the situation in Kosovo and Bosnia; follow-up on Washington Summit initiatives — including those concerning weapons of mass destruction, non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament; and the development of the European Security and Defence Identity.

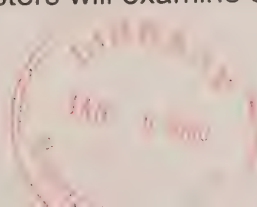
"This meeting provides the opportunity to ensure concrete follow-up to the Washington Summit, particularly in areas in which Canada has a strong interest and concern, such as the situation in the Balkans and arms control and disarmament," said Minister Axworthy.

The G-8 Ministerial Conference will build on discussions on conflict prevention held at the G-8 Summit in Cologne last June. Ministers will examine several issues which are



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integral to Canada's human security agenda and its work at the UN Security Council in the area of protection of civilians in armed conflict. These include small arms, child soldiers, civilian police capacity, and the impact on war economies of the illicit trade in high value commodities such as diamonds.

"I am very pleased that the last time the G-8 Foreign Ministers met, my colleagues were very supportive of integrating Canada's human security priorities in our work. I intend to build on this momentum in Berlin, particularly in light of the fact that conflict prevention is a key element of the human security agenda," added Mr. Axworthy.

During the trip, Minister Axworthy will also engage in a number of meetings with his counterparts in which he will raise other issues of international concern, including Chechnya.

- 30 -

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# News Release

December 10, 1999

( 12:30 p.m. EST)

No. 267

## CANADA INTRODUCES NEW ACT TO IMPLEMENT INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Anne McLellan today announced the introduction of legislation in the House of Commons to create a new Act of Parliament, the Crimes Against Humanity Act. The new law would implement in Canada the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and would replace the current war crimes provisions of the Criminal Code.

"Today is International Human Rights Day and I can think of no better occasion to table this legislation. Once established, the ICC will help to end the culture of impunity that has allowed gross abusers of human rights to escape justice," said Minister Axworthy. "I am proud that Canada is the first country to introduce such comprehensive implementation legislation. In doing so, we are building on the momentum that started with the negotiations on the ICC Statute in Rome last year and ensuring that Canada is at the forefront of making the International Criminal Court a vital, functioning entity."

The Rome Statute of the ICC was adopted by 120 states at an international diplomatic conference held in Rome in July 1998. Canada served as chair of the pivotal Committee of the Whole at the Conference, bringing it to a successful conclusion, and is again playing this role at the United Nations in New York to work out technical details of the Court's operation. Minister Axworthy signed the Rome Statute on behalf of Canada on December 18, 1998.

The new Crimes Against Humanity Act would create new offences of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and breach of responsibility by military commanders and civilian superiors. New offences would also be created to protect the administration of justice of the ICC, as well as the safety of judges, officials and witnesses.

"The Government of Canada remains committed to using all available avenues to bring to justice persons suspected of committing genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes," said Minister McLellan. "These amendments would strengthen the legislative foundation for criminal prosecutions in Canada and fortify the administration of justice of the ICC. They would reinforce Canada's War Crimes Program and reaffirm Canada's



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pledge to Canadians and to the international community that Canada is not, and will not be, a safe haven for war criminals.”

The Act would also create new proceeds of crime offences and mechanisms to enforce orders of the ICC for the restraint and forfeiture of assets. Money obtained would be paid into a Crimes Against Humanity Fund, established under the Act, and may be distributed by the Attorney General of Canada to victims of offences under the Act or the Rome Statute.

The Crimes Against Humanity Act also implements Canada's obligations under the Rome Statute to surrender persons sought by the ICC for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other offences under the Statute. In addition, a person who is the subject of a request for surrender by the ICC would not be able to claim immunity from arrest or surrender. The Act would complement recent amendments to the Extradition Act, introduced by Minister McLellan, which allow for and facilitate the extradition of persons accused of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes to international criminal courts and tribunals.

Both ministers expressed the hope that the 91 states that have signed the ICC Statute to date will rapidly ratify and implement it. The Statute will come into force once it has been ratified by 60 countries. The Government of Canada will continue to actively promote a co-ordinated global strategy in support of ICC ratification and implementation. Non-governmental organizations are an integral part of this strategy.

Mr. Axworthy announced that two important initiatives to promote the ICC's ratification would receive funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Peacebuilding and Human Security Program. The first is a \$60 000 contribution to a joint project of the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy and the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development. The project will support the development and dissemination of practical tools to assist countries in their efforts to ratify and implement the ICC Statute. The other is a \$50 000 contribution to the NGO Coalition for an International Criminal Court. The Coalition is undertaking a global campaign to educate national leaders, media, parliamentarians and civil society about the ICC Statute and to promote its ratification.

Funds for the contributions cited above were provided for in the February 1999 federal budget and are therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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Office of the Minister of Justice  
(613) 992-4621

Marjorie Ward  
Communications and Executive Services Branch  
Department of Justice  
(613) 957-4205

This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Web site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca> and the Department of Justice's Internet site: <http://canada.justice.gc.ca>





## **Background**

### **CANADA AND THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT**

Canada has been a driving force behind the creation of the International Criminal Court (ICC), whose Statute was adopted in Rome on July 17, 1998. The ICC will be the first permanent international court to have jurisdiction over the most serious crimes established in international law — genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes and, once a suitable definition is adopted, the crime of aggression. The ICC Statute will enter into force after it has been ratified by 60 states.

Canada signed the ICC Statute on December 18, 1998, and is one of several dozen countries undertaking measures to implement the Statute within their national legal systems. While six countries (Fiji, Ghana, Italy, San Marino, Senegal, and Trinidad and Tobago) have already ratified the Statute, the legislation being introduced today makes Canada the first country to introduce comprehensive implementation legislation.

The ICC is designed to complement, not replace, national courts and will therefore exercise jurisdiction where national courts are unable or unwilling to bring transgressors to justice. The ICC Statute provides the tools to ensure that the Court will be an independent and effective institution, and also contains sufficient procedural safeguards to ensure that it operates in a responsible manner respecting due process. The crimes over which the Court has jurisdiction are carefully defined in accordance with established customary international law. The Statute contains a number of provisions to address the plight of women and children in armed conflict. The Statute recognizes rape, sexual slavery and other forms of sexual violence as a war crime and a crime against humanity, and also recognizes the enlistment or use of children under 15 in armed conflicts as a war crime.

Canada remains committed to a leadership role in bringing to justice those who commit genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, regardless of when or where these crimes have taken place. The amendments are part of the federal government's resolve to have at its disposal all possible remedies to ensure that Canada is not a safe haven for war criminals.

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROPOSED CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY ACT**

The new Act would implement in Canada the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. It would replace the current war crimes provisions of the Criminal Code. The Act would include the following new offences:

- **Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes**

The new Act would create offences, based on the Rome Statute, of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. These would apply to conduct committed in Canada

and would permit Canada to prosecute these offences or to extradite persons to the ICC to face prosecution there.

Genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes committed outside Canada would be defined under international law existing at the time and in the place of their commission, whether in the past or in the future. This would ensure that those involved in genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, regardless of when or where those events occurred, could be brought to justice.

- **Offences of Breach of Command/Superior Responsibility**

The Act includes offences of breach of responsibility by military commanders and other superiors. Failure of a military commander or a superior to exercise control over persons under their authority, which results in the subordinates' committing genocide, a crime against humanity or a war crime, could result in the criminal responsibility of the military commanders or superiors if they fail to take measures to prevent or repress the crime or to submit the matter to the competent authorities for investigation.

- **Defences**

Canadian and international defences would be available to persons accused of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and breach of command/superior responsibility with some exceptions. It would not be a defence that an offence was committed in obedience to the law in force at the time and in the place of its commission. The defence of superior orders would be in accord with that provided in the Rome Statute. In addition, the defence of superior orders could not be based on a belief that the order was lawful if the accused's belief is based on information about an identifiable group of persons that was likely to encourage the commission of inhumane acts or omissions against the group.

- **Sentences and Parole Eligibility**

The sentences and the parole eligibility rules that would apply to a conviction for genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes that involve an intentional killing would be the same as that for murder in the Criminal Code. Ordinary parole rules would apply for all other sentences.

- **Offences Against the Administration of Justice of the ICC**

The Act includes offences to protect the integrity of the processes of the Court and to protect judges and officials of the ICC, as well as witnesses. In particular, it includes offences of obstructing justice, obstructing officials, bribery of judges and officials, perjury, fabricating or giving contradictory evidence, and intimidation. Witnesses who have testified before the ICC would be protected under the Criminal Code from



retaliation against them or their families. All of these offences would apply when committed in Canada or by Canadian citizens outside Canada. Other existing Criminal Code offences would also apply to protect judges and officials from any harm when they are in or outside of Canada.

- **Proceeds of Crime Offences**

The Act also ensures that the possession and laundering of proceeds from these new offences would also be offences. This would ensure that proceeds located in Canada from the worst criminal offences like genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes can be restrained, seized or forfeited in much the same way as proceeds from other criminal offences in Canada.

- **Crimes Against Humanity Fund**

Money in Canada obtained from the disposal of forfeited assets or from the enforcement of fines or reparation orders of the ICC will be paid into the Crimes Against Humanity Fund, established under the Act. The Attorney General of Canada may then make payment from that Fund to the ICC's Trust Fund established under the Rome Statute or to the victims of offences under the Act.

- **Extradition**

The Crimes Against Humanity Act would implement Canada's obligations under the Rome Statute to surrender persons sought by the ICC for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

Most procedures of the Extradition Act would apply to persons who are the subject of a request for surrender by the ICC. However, a person who is the subject of a request for surrender by the ICC would not be able to claim immunity under common law or statute from arrest or surrender under the Extradition Act. Grounds of refusal for surrender that are normally applicable in cases of state-to-state extradition will not apply to a request for surrender to the ICC.

- **Mutual Legal Assistance**

Canada would be able to assist the ICC in investigating offences of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes in much the same way that it currently assists other states with normal criminal investigations. The Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Act would permit Canada to provide a wide range of assistance, from the identification of persons to gathering evidence in Canada for the purposes of prosecution.





# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

December 10, 1999

(1:50 p.m. EST)

No. 268

## AXWORTHY DEPLORES RUSSIA'S THREAT AND CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today deplored the Russian threat to destroy the city of Grozny and called for the Russian Federation to implement an immediate cease-fire in and around the city to allow civilians to leave. The threat forces residents of Grozny to leave the city by December 11, 1999.

"Canada finds Russia's military actions in Chechnya to be unacceptable," said Mr. Axworthy. "It is absolutely vital that Russia take immediate measures to halt its plans for Grozny which could result in a humanitarian disaster, where the elderly, handicapped, and fearful non-combatants would become innocent victims of a most brutal and indiscriminate policy. Russia's intense bombardment of Grozny is already endangering the lives of the civilians who are trapped there."

This message was delivered in a letter by Minister Axworthy to Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov today. The letter also stresses Russia's obligations to protect civilians under the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe code of conduct and the Geneva Conventions.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874





# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

December 10, 1999

(4:35 p.m. EST)

No. 269

## AXWORTHY WELCOMES ISRAEL-SYRIA PEACE TALKS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the announcement that Israel and Syria would resume peace negotiations that broke off in 1996.

"This is an important step along the road to a comprehensive peace in the Middle East," said Mr. Axworthy. "Prime Minister Barak and President Assad have shown their goodwill by taking this brave initiative."

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Shara will meet in Washington next week to begin the talks. Mr. Axworthy praised the American involvement in bringing the two sides together. "President Clinton and Secretary of State Albright should be commended for their role in persuading Israel and Syria to restart negotiations." The Minister added that he hoped this announcement would bode well for the resumption of talks between Israel and Lebanon.

Mr. Axworthy also noted that the multilateral track of the peace process will restart. "We are very pleased to see that the multilaterals will resume activity. Canada, through our role as Chair of the Refugee Working Group, has played an important role in the multilateral process. We look forward to convening a Plenary Refugee Working Group meeting early in 2000."

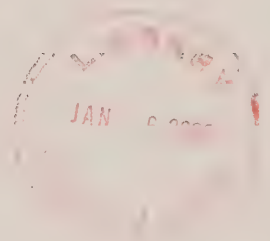
The multilateral track comprises five working groups that deal with water resources, the environment, regional economic development, arms control and regional security, as well as refugees. A steering group oversees the multilateral process and is expected to meet in January.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
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*International Trade*  
*Commerce international*

# *News Release*

[www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca](http://www.dfa.it-ma.eci.gc.ca)

December 10, 1999

(5:10 p.m. EST)

No. 270

## **BILL CLARKE APPOINTED TO CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Minister for International Trade, Pierre S. Pettigrew, today announced the appointment of Bill Clarke to the Board of Directors of the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC).

Mr. Clarke is currently the Assistant Deputy Minister of International Business, and Chief Trade Commissioner with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). During his 33-year career with DFAIT, Mr. Clarke has also served as Ambassador to Sweden and the Baltic Republics, Ambassador to Brazil, and Director General of the U.S. Trade Division, among other positions.

The Canadian Commercial Corporation is a crown corporation that reports to Parliament through the Minister for International Trade. CCC supports the export efforts of Canadian companies by providing contracting expertise and performance guarantees to foreign buyers. It is a valued member of Team Canada Inc.

- 30 -

A biographical note on Mr. Clarke is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Office of the Minister for International Trade  
(613) 992-7332

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874



## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

### **William L. (Bill) Clarke**

#### **Education:**

B.A., University of Saskatchewan

#### **Career History:**

- Assistant Deputy Minister, International Business, and Chief Trade Commissioner, 1999-to present
- Ambassador to Sweden and the Baltic Republics, 1995-99
- Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Service Branch, 1994-95
- Assistant Deputy Minister, Personnel Branch, 1992-94
- Ambassador to Brazil, 1990-92
- Director General, U.S. Trade Division Tourism and Investment Development Bureau, 1988-90
- Director, U.S. Trade Division, 1986-88
- Consul General, São Paulo, Brazil, 1982-86
- Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner, San Francisco, 1978-82
- Deputy Director, Administration and Personnel, Industry Trade and Commerce, 1975-78
- First Secretary (Commercial), Rio de Janeiro and Brasilia, 1973-75
- First Secretary (Commercial), Singapore, 1970-73
- Second Secretary (Commercial), The Hague, 1967-70
- Assistant Trade Commissioner, Ottawa, 1966-67

# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

December 14, 1999

(10:40 a.m. EST)

No. 271

## AXWORTHY AND COOK LAUNCH YOUTHLINKS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today officially launched YouthLinks, a new Web-based learning tool bringing Canadian and international students together in a unique interactive environment. For this occasion, Britain's Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Right Honourable Robin Cook, joined Mr. Axworthy at Canada House in London, to establish a live link between Churchill High School, in Winnipeg, and Inveralmond High School, in Edinburgh — the Ministers' respective constituencies.

YouthLinks is a joint pilot project between the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and Historica, a new foundation for Canadian history. YouthLinks will connect designated high schools in Canada with high schools in England and Germany through the use of new technologies, and will focus on Canadian history.

"Sharing our history, as well as knowing the history of our international partners, is essential to the development of a well-educated youth, conscious of the importance of the diversity of cultures and backgrounds that shapes their reality," said Mr. Axworthy. YouthLinks will bring this international perspective to students, educators, and teachers, and engage them in issues of international importance such as human security, human rights, and war-affected children."

"I am delighted that the Inveralmond High School will be participating in this project," said Foreign Secretary Cook. "At a national and governmental level, we already have close co-operation between Canada and the United Kingdom. Lloyd Axworthy and I have worked closely together on a range of issues where a spirit of friendship and respect has ensured a successful outcome. YouthLinks International will build on this relationship. A network of schools across Canada, Germany, the U.K. and, I hope, other countries, will facilitate links and encourage friendship between the nations. A new generation of 'diplomats' will be able to exchange ideas, explore common difficulties and find common solutions. It is a wonderful initiative and I am sure that it will be a great success."



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Under the creative direction of Bitcasters, a Toronto-based new media company, in collaboration with Intellia of Montreal, the hosted Web site [www.youthlinks.org](http://www.youthlinks.org) will consist of links to a wide variety of resources and activities available to project participants.

DFAIT provided \$250 000 in funding to YouthLinks through the International Cultural Relations Program, which supports initiatives undertaken abroad in the arts and higher education.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1999 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874





# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

December 14, 1999

(4:35 p.m. EST)

No. 272

## CHAN MEETS WITH BURMESE OPPOSITION LEADER

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan met earlier today in Ottawa with Dr. Sein Win, leader of the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB) in exile.

"Canada has repeatedly called on Burma's military regime to engage in substantive political discussions with the leaders of Burma's democracy movement and the ethnic minorities," said Mr. Chan. "I reiterated our support for our ongoing dialogue with the NCGUB during my meeting with Dr. Win. I indicated to him that Canada will continue to do all it can, both bilaterally and through multilateral channels, to promote democracy in Burma."

Mr. Chan highlighted the fact that Canada has also provided practical assistance to Burmese refugees on Burma's borders. Since 1991-92, the Canadian International Development Agency has disbursed \$15 million in aid to Burmese refugees in Bangladesh and Thailand.

This is Dr. Win's fourth visit to Canada. During this private visit, he was a guest speaker at the December 10th presentation of the 1999 John Humphrey Human Rights Award in Montreal to Dr. Cynthia Maung and Min Ko Naing.

-30-

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

December 15, 1999

(2:00 p.m. EST)

No. 273

## SENATOR WILSON TO PARTICIPATE IN SUDAN PEACE TALKS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that Senator Lois Wilson, Canada's special envoy to the Sudan Peace Process, will travel to Geneva for several meetings on December 16 and 17 aimed at improving the prospects for a lasting peace in Sudan.

On December 16, Senator Wilson will lead Canadian participation at the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Partners Forum, which will discuss long-term planning, rehabilitation and development issues related to the war-affected areas in Sudan. The following day, Senator Wilson will attend a meeting on the UN's relief effort, Operation Lifeline Sudan. She will also participate in bilateral discussions with Sudanese government officials and members of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, a southern-based movement that has been fighting consecutive Sudanese governments.

"Canada's commitment to human security guides our involvement in Sudan, particularly with respect to the protection of civilians in armed conflict," said Mr. Axworthy. "We will continue to focus our efforts on the reinvigoration of the peace process. Senator Wilson's visit will provide further insight into how best to resolve the situation in Sudan. Her presence will strengthen the overall support of IGAD mediation for a long-lasting peace."

To date, Senator Wilson has held a number of meetings to explore the Sudanese situation. She met with Bethuel Kipligat, a prominent Kenyan civil society leader and specialist on regional peace issues. Prior to her departure for Geneva, she also met with Dr. Haruun Ruun and Telar Ring Deng, both representatives of the New Sudan Council of Churches, and Sudanese officials.

On a related matter, Mr. Axworthy also welcomed and was encouraged by the announcement made on December 10 by Talisman Energy that it will adopt the International Code of Ethics for Canadian Business. The International Code was developed in 1997 by a group of Canadian companies with multinational operations.





"This move represents a significant acknowledgement on the part of Talisman of the need for Canadian business to take ethical considerations into account in their overseas operations," said Mr. Axworthy. "We are encouraged by Talisman Energy's recent reaffirmation that it will actively promote the peace process and issues pertaining to human rights in Sudan."

On October 26, Minister Axworthy appointed Canada's special advisor on African issues, John Harker, to investigate whether Sudan's oil industry is linked to human rights abuses as well as allegations of slavery. During the past week, he has met with senior government officials, representatives of civil society, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and members of the opposition.

Canada's policy on Sudan includes supporting the multilateral peace process, maintaining limited engagement with the Government of Sudan, addressing human rights concerns, supporting civil society, and continuing dialogue with the private sector and NGOs.

The Government of Canada notes with concern the recent declaration of a state of emergency in Sudan and urges the Government of Sudan to reaffirm their full commitment to the IGAD peace process and establish a timetable for the early resumption of talks. The state of emergency in Sudan has not affected Mr. Harker's assessment mission.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

December 15, 1999

(4:40 p.m. EST)

No. 274

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES RELEASE OF ANNUAL REPORT ON EXPORTS OF CANADIAN MILITARY GOODS

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that he has released the 1998 Annual Report on Exports of Military Goods from Canada.

"Canada is actively promoting greater international transparency in the trade and control of conventional military weapons," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canadian export controls on military goods are therefore part of a larger and constantly evolving international effort. At the same time, Canada works with other countries to ensure that the interests of legitimate users are taken into account in decisions affecting the export of military goods."

The report continues to set high standards of transparency while protecting sensitive commercial information on specific transactions. Although other exporting countries issue such reports, Canada provides more details about the types of goods being exported.

Canada has one of the world's strictest systems for screening potential exports of military equipment. Canada closely controls military exports to countries involved in, or under imminent threat of hostilities, or whose governments have a persistent record of serious violations of their citizens' human rights, unless it can be demonstrated that there is no reasonable risk that the goods might be used against the civilian population.

Canada's total military exports are modest by world standards. The 1998 Annual Report indicates that exports to low-income countries were less than 0.01 percent of Canada's total military exports in 1998.

Canada is not a major exporter of military small arms and light weapons. The majority of the transactions reported involve modest sales of firearms for civilian possession and use, which have little military utility. Fully automatic firearms, such as assault rifles, can only be exported from Canada to a small group of 13 countries with which Canada has negotiated reciprocal defence, research, development and production arrangements.



Copies of the Annual Report are available from the Enquiries Centre of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) at 1-800-267-8376.

The document is also available on the DFAIT Export and Import Controls Web page:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/~eicb/export/Military98/mil98front-e.htm>

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

December 16, 1999

(9:00 a.m. EST)

No. 275

## AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES REAPPOINTMENT OF IDRC PRESIDENT

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced the reappointment of Ms. Maureen O'Neil as President of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). Ms. O'Neil was first appointed in 1997.

The International Development Research Centre is a public corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 to help scientists and communities in developing countries find solutions to social, economic and environmental problems through research. IDRC is directed by an international Board of Governors, consisting of 11 Canadian members and 10 non-Canadian members.

- 30 -

A biographical note on Ms. O'Neil is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874





## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

A graduate in sociology from Carleton University, Ms. O'Neil has spent a good part of her professional life in the areas of public policy, research, policy analysis and development. She has worked for a number of government departments and agencies. Before being appointed to the IDRC Ms. O'Neil served as Interim President of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development. From 1995 to 1996 she was a partner with the Institute on Governance. She served as President of the North South Institute (a non-governmental policy research organization) from 1989 to 1995; Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Citizenship of Ontario from 1987 to 1989; Secretary-General of the Canadian Human Rights Commission from 1986 to 1987; and Co-ordinator of Status of Women Canada from 1978 to 1986. She is also a member of the boards of directors for the Foundation of the Americas and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance; the Editorial Board of *International Journal*, Canadian Institute of International Affairs; and the Program Advisory Board of the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University.



# News Release

December 17, 1999

(2:00 p.m. EST)

No. 276

## CANADA AND U.S. RENEW AGREEMENT ON SHARED USE OF NANOOSE BAY TEST RANGES

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and National Defence Minister Art Eggleton announced today that Canada and the United States have agreed to extend the June 17, 1986, agreement on the shared use of the Canadian Forces Maritime Experimental and Test Ranges (CFMETR) at Nanoose Bay in British Columbia.

The Exchange of Notes that took place today will extend the agreement for another 10 years. The agreement includes a new clause stating that both governments will adopt protocols ensuring responsible environmental stewardship at CFMETR. These protocols define standardized procedures to ensure that the activities at the ranges are environmentally safe.

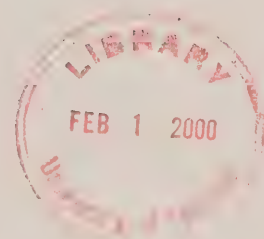
The CFMETR facility is jointly operated by the Canadian Forces and the United States Navy under the terms of an agreement initiated in 1965 and renewed in 1976 and 1986. The facility is used to test unarmed weapons systems and acoustic sensors critical to maritime operations.

The range, with its accessibility and superior acoustic and topographic characteristics, is Canada's only instrumented maritime weapons test range. As such, it is important to Canada's national security and integral to Canada's ability to fulfil its naval commitments at home and abroad. CFMETR is also a significant Canadian contribution to the joint defence of North America.

- 30 -

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Randy Mylyk  
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Media Liaison Office  
Department of National Defence  
(613) 996-2353

This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

December 17, 1999

(3:00 p.m. EST)

No. 277

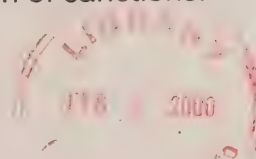
## UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ADOPTS RESOLUTION ON IRAQ

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the adoption of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 1284 regarding Iraq. The Resolution calls for the return of weapons inspectors to Iraq and contains important provisions aimed at the immediate improvement in the humanitarian situation facing Iraq.

"Canada was an early supporter of this Resolution and we worked hard with our Council colleagues to bring the process to a successful conclusion. The Resolution addresses two main objectives of Canada concerning Iraq, namely the return of an effective weapons inspection system and an immediate improvement in the humanitarian situation," said Mr. Axworthy. "Canada will be part of the process of implementing the terms of the Resolution to ensure that its goals are achieved."

Noting that this month marks one year since the suspension of weapons inspection in Iraq, Mr. Axworthy expressed regret that the Resolution did not enjoy the full support of all Council members. Permanent Members China, France, and Russia abstained, as did Malaysia. "With its adoption, the Resolution, nonetheless, becomes Council policy, although responsibility for its implementation primarily rests with Iraq. Canada is committed to the disarmament objectives and humanitarian improvements contained in the Resolution, and I urge the Iraqi government to work with the Council for the benefit of the Iraqi people," Minister Axworthy added, and he urged Baghdad to "accept the Council's decision."

The new Resolution provides for an enhanced package of humanitarian provisions to be implemented immediately. There are strengthened mechanisms to ensure that medical, agricultural, pharmaceutical and educational supplies get to the people faster, and that a much-needed cash component is provided for the humanitarian effort in central and southern Iraq. The Resolution also holds out the possibility of increasing Iraq's oil production capability through provisions for additional spare parts and possibly foreign investment at a later stage. The disarmament sections create a new disarmament agency and call for the preparation of a clear disarmament road map which, if complied with, will lead to the suspension of sanctions.



A Canadian initiative in January helped break a Security Council impasse on Iraq and move the issue forward. Under the Canadian plan, three panels of experts were set up to review disarmament, humanitarian and Kuwaiti prisoner of war and reparations issues. The reports of these panels form the foundation of the new UNSC Resolution on Iraq.

Canada agreed to co-sponsor the Resolution in August in exchange for commitments to improvements made on both the humanitarian and disarmament elements of the text. Canada remained engaged on the issue throughout the fall to ensure that these key Canadian objectives were met. Prolonged disagreement among the Permanent Members of the Security Council delayed passage of the Resolution until now.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

December 17, 1999

(3:45 p.m. EST)

No. 278

## CHAN TO REPRESENT CANADA AT MACAU HANDOVER CEREMONIES

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan will represent Canada at the ceremonies marking the handover of Macau from Portugal to China on December 19 and 20.

"Canada welcomes this historic event," said Mr. Chan. "As Macau now joins Hong Kong as a Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China, I wish to reiterate our intention to maintain close relations with its people."

Mr. Chan noted that Canada is confident that China will honour the "one country, two systems" model for Macau. "A stable transition is key to ensuring continued economic and social progress in Macau," he added.

Mr. Chan will attend a series of handover events with Chinese and Portuguese political leaders, Macau Chief Executive Edmund Ho, and representatives from 30 other countries.

Some 2000 Canadian citizens reside in Macau.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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# News Release

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December 20, 1999

(10:55 a.m. EST)

No. 279

## CANADIAN HOSTAGES RELEASED IN ECUADOR

Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy and Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour today confirmed that seven Canadians and one American kidnapped in northeastern Ecuador on September 11 have been released.

"I am delighted that the Canadians will soon be reunited with their families," said Mr. Axworthy. "I would like to express Canada's appreciation for the excellent co-operation and assistance we received from the Ecuadorean government, in particular President Mahuad, in ensuring the safe release of the kidnapped victims."

"I am pleased to note early reports that the released hostages are in good health and are looking forward to being reunited with their loved ones as soon as possible," said Mr. Kilgour. He also expressed warm appreciation for the support of the Ecuadorean government. Mr. Kilgour visited Ecuador and Colombia in September in order to discuss the matter with the responsible authorities of those countries.

Mr. Kilgour also commended United Pipelines of Edmonton for their commitment and determination in securing the release of their employees. "The company's compassionate and caring support for the hostages' families in Alberta was particularly noteworthy," he added.

The seven Canadians, all employees of United Pipelines, were part of a group of 12 kidnapped by an as yet unidentified group. In October, four of the kidnap victims, including one Canadian, were released.

Mr. Axworthy expressed deep concern that these types of kidnappings continue to occur. "The victimization of innocent individuals is unacceptable. We must enhance international co-operation mechanisms to deal with such crimes and bring them to an end," he said.

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# News Release

December 24, 1999

(2:45 p.m. EST)

No. 280

## CANADA CONDEMNS COUP D'ÉTAT IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Canada today condemned the ongoing coup d'état in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, following today's suspension of the country's constitution and parliament by former army chief Robert Gueie.

"Canada calls for an immediate return to democratic rule and constitutional order," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. "It is imperative that President Henri Konan Bédié be restored to power to assure peace and stability in Côte d'Ivoire."

"If the situation does not improve, Canada will review its bilateral development co-operation program with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire," stated Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna.

"Canada considers Côte d'Ivoire to be a very important partner in West Africa," said David Kilgour, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa). "We are monitoring the situation very closely."

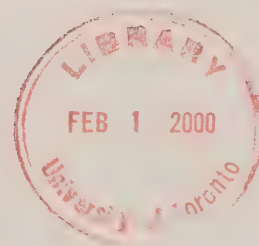
The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has updated its travel advisory report and cautions Canadians against travelling to Côte d'Ivoire. The Canadian Embassy is in contact with Canadian citizens in and around Abidjan and is advising them to remain indoors and follow local news closely. There are approximately 1000 Canadians in Côte d'Ivoire.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

# News Release

December 26, 1999

(7:00 p.m. EST)

No. 281

## CANADA SUSPENDS AID TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Minister for International Co-operation Maria Minna today announced that Canada has suspended its bilateral assistance program to Côte d'Ivoire. This action comes in the wake of a military coup, which took place in Côte d'Ivoire on December 24.

"Canada will not continue with 'business as usual' in this situation," said Minister Axworthy. "The unconstitutional overthrow of elected governments is contrary to democratic principles and clearly contravenes the guidelines of the Moncton Plan of Action of La Francophonie. In suspending our aid program and reviewing all other aspects of our bilateral relations, we are demonstrating to the military regime that their actions come with a price."

Canada is reviewing the full range of bilateral activities under way with Côte d'Ivoire, and two major development projects will be affected by today's decision. These are a \$5 million program to support local tax reform and a \$15 million line of credit that supports the supply of fertilizers.

"The suspension of Canada's bilateral aid program clearly demonstrates our condemnation of recent events," said Minister Minna. "We will, however, ensure that humanitarian assistance, which is directed to the most vulnerable members of society, is maintained, in co-operation with our non-governmental partners."

Mr. Axworthy indicated that Canada's ambassador to Côte d'Ivoire will meet tomorrow with General Robert Guei, the leader of the coup, to reiterate Canada's demand for an immediate return to democracy and constitutional government.

On the multilateral front, Mr. Axworthy noted that he has written to the Secretary General of La Francophonie, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, requesting his further engagement on behalf of that organization. As well, Minister Axworthy has asked the Secretary of State Responsible for La Francophonie, Ron Duhamel, who is also current President of La Francophonie's Council of Ministers, to follow the situation in Côte d'Ivoire closely and to examine what measures La Francophonie can take to facilitate a return to



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democracy and constitutional order in that country. Mr. Axworthy has asked the Secretary of State to provide a follow-up report on the results of his consultations.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade cautions Canadians against travelling to Côte d'Ivoire. The Canadian Embassy in Abidjan is in regular contact with all Canadians in the country and has advised them to remain indoors and to follow local news closely.

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This document is also available on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Internet site: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>



# News Release

www.dfaif-maeci.gc.ca

December 31, 1999

(9:30 a.m. EST)

No. 282

## CANADA WELCOMES RELEASE OF INDIAN AIRLINES HOSTAGES

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy today welcomed the release of the remaining 155 hostages from Indian Airlines Flight 814. The hijacking, which started on December 24 after departing from Kathmandu, Nepal, ended in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

"I deeply regret that one passenger was killed and others injured during this tragic affair, but I am relieved that the distress suffered by the hostages, their families and their friends is now over," said Minister Axworthy. "I commend the skill of the negotiators, who were able to reach this peaceful conclusion."

Canadian diplomatic personnel in Kandahar and New Delhi are providing assistance to Shirley Macklin, the released Canadian. Mrs. Macklin, who is reported to be in good condition, has been met in Kandahar by a Canadian official. She will be met in New Delhi by the Canadian High Commissioner and reunited with a member of her family.

"I spoke to Mrs. Macklin's family in Winnipeg a short time ago," said Mr. Axworthy. "I told them that we very much appreciated their patience and courage, and their close co-operation with our consular officials in both Ottawa and New Delhi."

The Minister noted that the response to the hijacking was consistent with principles on dealing with hostage-taking incidents agreed to by the G-8, the European Union and many Commonwealth members: save the lives of the hostages, oppose substantial concessions and uphold the rule of law. "It is obviously very difficult for us, as observers, to determine the course of negotiations in such delicate situations, but it is encouraging that this approach was followed to its conclusion."

Mr. Axworthy reiterated Canada's commitment to international co-operation in fighting terrorism and other threats to human security. "It is increasingly clear that terrorism respects no boundaries," he said. "That is why Canada is at the forefront of creating international instruments, such as the International Convention on the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the International Criminal Court, both of which will be most helpful in dealing with this international scourge."



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The Minister pledged Canada's support in ensuring that the hijackers of the Indian Airlines flight, as well as their accomplices, are pursued through all available avenues of international law and made accountable for their actions.

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